Gal 7 Nd.

AN ACCOUNT OF PUERPERAL FEVERS,

As they appear in DERBYSHIRE, and some of the Counties adjacent.

By WILLIAM BUTTER, M. D.
Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians in EDINBURGH.

Occurſurum vitio dicunt eum, qui originem non ignorârit.
CELSUS.

LONDON:
Printed and ſold by T. PAYNE, at the *Mews' Gate, Saint Martin's.*

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MVSEVM
BRITAN
NICVM

BY WILLIAM BUTTER, M.D.
Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians in
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Gate, near Charing Cross.

ADVERTISEMENT.

THE firſt four chapters and ſix caſes of the following work were prepared for the publick view above a twelvemonth ago: and they paſſed through the hands of a phyſician in London during the months of july and auguſt. Some time in ſeptember that gentleman delivered my papers, at my deſire, to a bookſeller, but not the preſent publiſher: and they have remained in the preſs ever ſince. Two more caſes having occurred in the mean time, I have likewiſe inſerted them, as ſo many additional illuſtrations of my ſubject.

It is but juſt, at this diſtance of time, once more to remark, that hemlock continues to be uſed for the kinkcough, and with ſo much ſucceſs, that it may truly be conſidered as one of the ſafeſt, and moſt certain, cures in phyſick.

Derby, April 15,
1775.

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INTRO-

INTRODUCTION.

Of fevers in general.

IT hath been long my opinion that Fever, properly ſo called, originates in the firſt paſſages—that it conſtitutes but one genus—that this genus comprehends only three ſpecies, the ephemeral, the remittent, and the intermittent fevers—and that all other fevers are varieties of theſe. As this doctrine of fever is ſupported by numerous obſervations, and as it hath been of the greateſt uſe to me in practice, it muſt be owned that I am ſtrongly impreſſed with the belief that it is founded in nature. The following account of puerperal fevers is a ſpecimen of my way of thinking on this ſubject. —At any rate, I hope this ſmall work is

of

of importance enough to merit publication; since, amongst other things, it points out the true nature of a very alarming disease, and even successful means, as well for the preventing, as for the curing, of it.

AN ACCOUNT OF THE PUERPERAL REMITTENT FEVER.

CHAPTER I.

The Deſcription, and Prognoſticks, of the PUERPERAL REMITTENT FEVER.

ON the ſecond or third day after delivery, whether of a ripe or unripe child, and ſometimes a few days before ſuch delivery, the woman, when expoſed to febrile cauſes, is ſeized with a cold fit, which is ſucceeded by headach, giddineſs, noiſe and throbbing of her ears, oppreſſed breathing, ſickneſs, faintneſs, great dejectedneſs, pain and ſoreneſs of the belly, heat, thirſt, and other

feveriſh ſymptoms: at this time the body is generally coſtive.

The pain in the head is chiefly over the eyebrows; and it is commonly exaſperated by attempting to riſe from the pillow.

Giddineſs is not a conſtant ſymptom: nor is the throbbing noiſe of the ears obſervable in every caſe.

Though delirium is a rare ſymptom, yet, it ſometimes occurs even in caſes which end favourably.

The woman is much haraſſed with watchfulneſs: and her ſleeps, or rather ſlumbers, are broken and diſturbed.

The face, though ſometimes fluſhed, is generally pale, and devoid of that look which is obſervable in feveriſh diſorders.

The tongue is moiſt, and ſeldom very white.

The breathing is generally affected with a ſtraitneſs, and ſometimes with what the patient calls a weakneſs; which ſymptom is in proportion to the fulneſs or pains of the belly. This complaint, though very troubleſome to the patient, is not very obvious to the byſtander.

Sick-

Sickneſs is a common ſymptom: and the patient often hawks up great quantities of tough phlegm, and ſometimes vomits phlegm and bilious ſtuff.

Great faintneſs, dejection, and deſpair of recovery, are the conſtant attendants of this fever.

The belly is often large, though ſoft; ſometimes it is large with a degree of general, or partial, hardneſs; and frequently, as to its external appearance, it is quite natural.

The pains of the belly, and ſoreneſs of it to the touch, are ſometimes from the navel downwards: but more frequently they extend all over the belly. The patient calls theſe pains, aching, ſometimes griping, and ſometimes bearing down pains.

Wind is always a troubleſome ſymptom; it often makes a roaring noiſe in the bowels; and, when diſcharged either upwards or downwards, relieves both the breathing and the abdominal pains.

The woman frequently complains of an uneaſy heat in her ſtomach and bowels, which extends even to her throat.

The milk generally leaves the breaſts.

The lochia ſometimes ſtop, on, or before, the commencement of the fever: but moſt commonly, that diſcharge continues its uſual courſe.

The urine, in ſome caſes, is deeply ſaturated; but, in more, it is ſlightly tinged.

The urine, when deeply ſaturated, generally breaks either not at all, or but ſlowly; and ſometimes retains in a great meaſure its colour, even after depoſing a copious ſediment with a pink ſurface.

The urine, when ſlightly tinged, often becomes turbid, nearly as ſoon as made; and, in leſs than half an hour, drops a crude grey ſediment. This kind of urine, as often as it occurs, is a certain criterion that the fever is of a putrid nature.

The urine is ſometimes ſcarce: for the moſt part it is ſufficiently copious.

The urine, by its quantity, ſometimes increaſes the faintneſs; oftener relieves all the ſymptoms; but is never critical.

The ſtools are dark, ſlimy, clotty, very fetid, and often froth and ferment like barm; they always give great relief to the patient; and are the only ſalutary criſis of the puerperal fever.

Worms,

Worms, either alive or dead, frequently come away in the ſtools.

The external heat of the belly and groins is often very great; while, at the ſame time, the reſt of the body is little warmer than natural.

The ſkin is generally moiſt, and ſoft.

There is a very great laſſitude, and debility; in conſequence of which the woman, for the moſt part, prefers a ſupine poſture.

The pulſe is low, ſmall, ſometimes ſharp, and generally beats about a hundred and thirty pulſations, or more, in the minute during an exacerbation.

There is, in ſome caſes, an offenſive ſmell about the patient; unleſs the room be kept cool, the linen often changed, and ſometimes the whole bedding.

Sometimes the breaſts are ſwelled, hard, and very painful; and ſometimes the womb is affected with inflammation: but both caſes are accidental, and not neceſſarily connected with this fever.

There is an irregular feveriſh exacerbation once or twice a day, and ſometimes oftener. This paroxyſm is preceded by a violent rigour, much oftener by a chil-

neſs without tremour, and ſometimes the hot fit comes on without any ſenſe of coldneſs.

Theſe exacerbations are uſually terminated by ſweats, which are ſometimes partial, ſometimes general, but never critical; and tend more to debilitate than relieve the patient.

All the ſymptoms are increaſed during the feveriſh exacerbations.

The length of this fever is various: ſometimes it terminates in a week or ten days; ſometimes it laſts three, four, or five, weeks; and, in ſome rare caſes, much longer.

The Prognosticks.

A belly naturally large, and pendulous, is always an unfavourable circumſtance in the puerperal fever.

On the contrary, a ſmall belly contributes greatly towards a ſpeedy and ſucceſsful iſſue of this diſeaſe.

If the patient hath lived ſparingly, and hath had regular ſtools during pregnancy, thoſe circumſtances tend to render the puerperal

puerperal fever mild and of ſhort duration.

If, on the contrary, the woman hath lived luxuriouſly, and hath alſo been coſtive during that period, we may juſtly expect that the fever will at leaſt have a longer courſe.

A ſickly ſeaſon adds both to the danger and frequency of the puerperal fever.

If the feveriſh exacerbations are mild, and preceded by little or no coldneſs, if the belly is ſoft and not large, and if the urine is pale and ſoon drops a ſediment*, there is reaſon to believe that the diſeaſe will not only end ſoon but favourably.

If, on the other hand, the rigours are violent and return often, if the exacerbations run high, if the belly is large and hard, and if the urine continues deep coloured even after dropping its ſediment, there is room

* Though I have ſhown that urine which quickly drops a crude grey ſediment indicates putreſcence, yet, I make no uſe of this ſign in forming a dangerous prognoſtick; having always found putrid fevers, if not complicated, as curable as any other fevers whatever.

to fear that the recovery will at leaſt be ſlow.

If the ſtools are daily acquiring a more natural appearance, while at the ſame time the urine grows pale in the ſame proportion and its ſediment whiter, there is great reaſon to expect a favourable and ſpeedy termination of the diſeaſe. Under ſuch circumſtances, urine even as limpid as ſpring water is a very good ſymptom.

While the ſtools continue foul, and the urine deeply ſaturated, even after depoſiting its ſediment, the proſpect of a recovery is not only diſtant, but doubtful.

If the urine continues high-coloured, notwithſtanding that the ſtools become more and more natural, the impending danger is great.

Sweats however general, and in what degree ſoever, without other concurring circumſtances, cannot be regarded as a ſymptom of recovery.

If this fever is attended with a looſeneſs, it will, other circumſtances being equal, terminate ſooner than when the ſtools are more ſparing.

I add

I add no more on this head; becauſe I profeſs to write from experience, without copying in the leaſt from other authors. I ſhall, in the following chapter, inquire into the cauſes and nature of this noted fever. Perhaps it will be found, that the true reaſon of the great diverſity of opinion on this ſubject is, that the caſe is too obvious, and at the ſame time apparently too ſimple, to be capable of producing ſuch dreadful conſequences.

CHAP.

CHAP. II.

Of the Cauſes and Nature of the PUERPERAL REMITTENT FEVER.

PREGNANCY ſeems to add greatly to the natural ſenſibility of the female conſtitution. At this time, women are uncommonly affected with certain odours, have great diſlikes to particular articles of diet, are diſtreſſed with groundleſs fears, and are often ſubject to a train of nervous ſymptoms, which at other times they are ſtrangers to: all which circumſtances can, in no reſpect, be accounted for ſo eaſily, as from morbid ſenſibility. And this very weak and mobile ſtate of the nervous ſyſtem is much increaſed in childbed, on account of the conſiderable loſs of blood and other humours.

During geſtation, the appetite for the moſt part is keen, while at the ſame time every appearance gives proofs of a bad digeſtion. This indigeſtion is increaſed by improper food, which the woman too often

often hankers after, and by the indolence inſeparable from her condition. Beſide, the courſe of the bowels being interrupted, coſtiveneſs generally prevails. On all theſe accounts, the firſt paſſages are loaded with impurities, which, the longer they ſtagnate, become of ſo much the more acrid and ſeptick a nature.

Having therefore found great weakneſs and irritability, the common predispoſing cauſes of all fevers, as alſo a morbid accumulation in the firſt paſſages, which is a very common exciting cauſe of ſuch diſorders; I ſay, having found all theſe cauſes eminently to concur in the puerperal ſtate, we can readily account for the danger attending childbed, and why women are ſo apt, at this time, to have fevers, which too often prove fatal. In moſt caſes, however, the balance between theſe cauſes is ſo even, that, if the woman is managed with proper caution, ſhe will notwithſtanding eſcape all feveriſh ailment, and have a good recovery. But if, from the leaſt error in the nonnaturals, one or all of theſe cauſes are aggravated, a fever will inevitably be the conſequence.

It

It muſt however be allowed that it ſometimes happens, that no precaution uſed upon delivery can prevent this fever. This chiefly is the caſe, when the inteſtinal accumulation, from a peculiar ſtate of the air, is become ſo highly putrid, as to be able of itſelf to kindle up the diſorder.

Fever is ſo far from being unnatural to the human conſtitution, that it attends us, and for the beſt purpoſes, both in ſickneſs and in health. Digeſtion is always carried on by a degree of fever. When the body is in health, this is not otherwiſe perceptible than by a ſlight chill, and an inconſiderable quickneſs of the pulſe. But, in a morbid ſtate, even this dietetick fever becomes a diſeaſe; and not only aggravates every feveriſh ſymptom, but will of itſelf often bring on a conſiderable fever. Hence it is, that no precepts, in the records of phyſick, have been longer or better eſtabliſhed than theſe; That patients ſhould be fed with the weakeſt and moſt fluid aliment, during feveriſh exacerbations; and that patients, greatly reduced by any diſeaſe, muſt be nouriſhed by the lighteſt and mildeſt food.

When-

Whenever therefore the ſtomach of a woman in childbed is oppreſſed by improper food, the dietetick fever is greatly exaſperated, the ſtomach and inteſtines are ſpaſmodically affected, and the whole body is drawn into the ſame affection from ſympathy. The fever thus produced increaſes the acrimony of the inteſtinal accumulation, and thereby generates, as it were, a fewel to ſupport itſelf.

This only accounts why improper food ſhould bring on a fever: but every other error in the nonnaturals will have the ſame effect, at leaſt ultimately. But, whatever be the exciting cauſe, this fever will always begin at the firſt paſſages; theſe being chiefly aggrieved, as being the moſt irritable part, and as being the moſt likely, from extenſive nervous communication, to affect the whole ſyſtem.

From what hath been ſaid I conclude, that the proximate cauſe of the puerperal fever is a ſpaſmodick affection of the firſt paſſages, together with a morbid accumulation there: and, upon this ſuppoſition, all the phænomena are eaſily to be explained.

Headach

Headach, giddineſs, tingling of the ears, and even delirium, often ariſe from an affection of the firſt paſſages: and this is always the caſe in the pure puerperal fever.

The difficulty of breathing is owing, in this fever, to the ſame cauſe.

Chilneſs, dejection, faintneſs, and ſickneſs, are ſymptoms peculiar to the firſt paſſages; and are, in the preſent caſe, commonly in proportion to the quantity, or quality, of the inteſtinal accumulation.

Uncommon heat of the belly, either externally or internally, is eaſily underſtood from this idea of fever.

As the lochia in general obſerve their natural courſe, the womb is not neceſſarily affected in this fever: but, if the woman hath bearing down pains, we are led to ſuſpect ſomething extraneous in that bowel; as clots of blood, or ſome relicks of the afterbirth.

When the urine becomes turbid almoſt as ſoon as made, and in leſs than half an hour depoſes all its colouring matter, it is a pure inteſtinal ſymptom.

The

The urine, however high-coloured, if it is not diaphanous, and provided that it depoſes the whole of its contents, is an inteſtinal ſymptom.

But high-coloured muddy urine, with partial or no ſeparation, indicates, beſides inteſtinal accumulations, an immediate affection of ſome of the viſcera.

From what hath been ſaid, we ſee why a criſis can never be expected by ſweat or urine: and when theſe excretions accompany, in any remarkable degree, a favourable termination of this fever, they can only be conſidered as the effects, not the cauſes of recovery.

This fever will be uncertain, as to its duration or event, according to the quantity or quality of the morbid cauſe.

If there is but little accumulation in the inteſtines, the fever, other circumſtances being equal, will be milder, and will terminate ſooner, than when there is a great deal.

If the diſeaſe is attended with a looſeneſs, it will, other circumſtances being equal, terminate ſooner than when the ſtools are more ſparing.

When

When the belly is large and hard, as there muſt be a great accumulation, the cure will at leaſt be tedious.

When the belly is in general ſoft but with partial hardneſſes, there are probably very hard viſcid accumulations, which muſt indicate a ſlow recovery.

If the external marks of inteſtinal congeſtion be attended with ſevere febrile exacerbations, and a high-coloured urine with ſlow or partial ſeparation, we muſt conclude that the fever is not ſimple; but complicated with other viſceral affections.

When a peculiar ſtate of the air, a neglect of cleanlineſs, or other cauſes, conſpire to promote a great degree of putrefaction in the bowels, the diſeaſe will be very dangerous, and ſoon end fatally; as the whole habit muſt be tainted, and ſome parts abſolutely corrupted, by the inteſtinal putrid fomes, long before it can be carried off by any degree of purging conſiſtent with the ſtrength of the patient: for ſuch are the convolutions and length of the inteſtinal tube, and ſuch the clotted and viſcid nature of its contents, that conſiderable accumulations cannot

generally

generally be carried off in leſs than three or four weeks, and ſometimes not ſo ſoon.

When there is an offenſive ſmell about the patient, we have reaſon to ſuſpect, that there is a great tendency to putrefaction in the humours: but, we are certain that this is the caſe, when the urine drops a crude grey ſediment. However, in many caſes of this fever, there are no ſymptoms of putrefaction. As it is a remittent fever, it will be allowed, of courſe, to approach very nearly to the nature of an intermittent. I, therefore, conſider this as a ſtrong argument in proof of what I have advanced in another work, that all intermittent diſorders have their ſeat in the inteſtines. And as this fever, through continuance, but more readily from other cauſes, becomes highly putrid, the notion of a putrid diſeaſe being produced in the guts is thereby illuſtrated and inforced. Indeed, were this a proper place for ſuch a diſquiſition, I could advance many arguments to prove, that all fevers originate in the ſtomach and guts; or, in other words, that fever is nothing but an aſ-

ſemblage of ſymptoms depending either immediately or mediately on the ſtomach and guts.

This Puerperal Fever is ſo far from being of a peculiar nature, that it is exactly analogous to the worm fever ſo fatal to children. The pains of the head and belly are not only common to theſe two diſorders, but, if I miſtake not, to ſome others alſo of the febrile kind.

Finally, after what hath been ſaid, all inflammatory ſymptoms muſt be conſidered as a complication, and by no means as eſſentially conſtituting any part, either of the cauſe or nature, of the Puerperal remittent Fever.

CHAP.

CHAP. III.

Of the Cure of the PUERPERAL REMITTENT FEVER.

IT hath been too commonly the practice to lay down methods of cure with great parade, muſtering up as many indications as poſſible. For my part, I think no cure can recommend itſelf ſo much as by its ſimplicity: and I could wiſh to ſee the time come, when the indication ſhould oftener lie only in the remedy. Conſidering that this is the natural method, and that it hath been adopted by the Chineſe for ages, it might ſeem wonderful that attempts of this kind ſhould not be received with more general approbation, did we not know that this hath always been the fate, at leaſt for a time, of even the moſt intereſting innovations.

This ſimple, or ſpecifick, method is of all others the moſt perfect; and the only natural one: for it acts immediately on the whole proximate cauſe; by which means the diſeaſe is not only ſoon eradicated, but

every ſymptom is daily mitigating during the whole progreſs of the cure. This method of treating a diſeaſe may be compared to the pulling of a houſe down by undermining the foundation on which it ſtands; when, of courſe, the whole pile at once falls to the ground.

There is a ſecondary, or leſs perfect, method of cure; upon which practitioners chiefly depend: and indeed they employ it ſucceſsfully againſt many diſeaſes, though we are ſtill at a loſs for it in many. It may however be diſcovered in almoſt all diſeaſes: and a phyſician ought never to be ſatisfied at leaſt without it; as he may be certain that he is otherwiſe in the dark, and cannot practice either with credit to himſelf or advantage to his patient. I have, in my treatiſe on the kinkcough, given a *true* ſpecimen of the ſpecifick, or moſt perfect method of cure *. I wiſh I could afford

* Since the above publication, I have experienced the efficacy of hemlock, as a cure for the kinkcough, in ſeveral more inſtances; and have never yet met with a ſingle one either of its failure or bad effects. I now double the doſes mentioned in the ſixth

afford another example in the Puerperal Fever. However, it is hoped that, the cure here deſcribed for this diſeaſe will properly illuſtrate, or exemplify, the ſecondary or next perfect method. As the one acts upon the whole proximate cauſe, ſo the other affects only ſome particular part or parts of it; which indeed, in the end, deſtroys the whole; as a proximate cauſe cannot ſubſiſt independent on any of its component parts. This method may be compared to the uſual manner of demoliſhing a building, by pulling aſunder its ſeveral walls, roofs, and partitions, in ſucceſſion: the end is commonly anſwered, but it requires more time, the effect is every way leſs ſplendid, and too often the patient enjoys but imperfect health, even after the diſeaſe is ſaid to be gone.

Now, as this leſs perfect method of cure acts only partially on the proximate cauſe, many ſymptoms of the diſorder will continue very troubleſome during a great part of the curative treatment: for this

 reaſon

ſixth chapter of the treatiſe: but a particular account of my improvements and ſucceſs ſhall be given in the ſecond edition of it.

reaſon ſuch a method can have no fewer than two indications, the principal or leading one, without which no cure can be effected, and a ſecond, which tends more to relieve uneaſy ſymptoms than to expedite a cure, though it muſt be allowed to have ſome ſhare even in this. But to come to the cure of the Puerperal Fever.

There are only two indications. The firſt or primary one is to promote two, three, or four ſtools daily, in a manner ſuited to the ſtrength of the patient, till ſuch time as they put on a natural appearance. This indication is beſt anſwered by a bolus, conſiſting of ten grains of rhubarb, and as much cordial confection, given every night, adding, or diminiſhing, a few grains according to the effect. When the bolus fails, at any time, of its deſired effect, it can immediately be aſſiſted by a clyſter of a pint of warm water impregnated with a large ſpoonful of common ſalt.

The ſecond indication is to relieve all uneaſy ſymptoms.

For the heat, thirſt, and ſcarcity of urine, the following julep will be found very uſeful.

Take

Take of mint water, five ounces; camphorated julep, two ounces; ſyrup of orange-peel, an ounce; pure nitre, forty grains: mix them.

Of this the patient is to take a fourth part every ſix hours: and it is to be repeated daily.

With the ſame views the patient muſt drink plentifully of thin cooling liquors, as barley water, and gruel: and ſhe ſhould abſolutely be confined to theſe, and ſmall broth, by turns, for all her food during the courſe of the fever; taking this kind of nouriſhment often, and particularly at thoſe times when ſhe happens to be low.

In caſe of great lowneſs, and when the food does not anſwer the purpoſe of a cordial, a large ſpoonful of the following mixture may be given now and then with advantage.

Take of mint water, ſeven ounces; ſyrup of orange-peel, one ounce; volatile ſalt of hartſhorn, thirty-two grains: mix them.

If this mixture prove too heating, it may be uſed without the ſalt.

Both the julep and mixture, beſide anſwering the purpoſes aſſigned to them, often diſpel wind; and ſo relieve not only the breath, but the pains of the head and belly.

If the headach continue obſtinate notwithſtanding the above means, a bliſter applied between the ſhoulders, or to the arm, will always give relief; and commonly, at the ſame time, procures refreſhing ſleep.

When the patient is troubled with vomiting, or retching, which is a fruitleſs effort to vomit, ſhe ſhould drink chamomile tea plentifully. If, in that manner, the ſtomach ſeem not to be cleanſed, eight or ten grains of ipecacuanha muſt be given. It is never neceſſary to give a vomit, in this fever, till a natural retching, or vomiting, come on.

When the belly is large, and hard, or much affected with pain, the part ſhould be fomented with flannels, wrung out of the common fomentation, for an hour together, at the diſtance of every ſix, eight, or twelve, hours. The warmth of the cloths ſhould be ſuch as to be quite agree-

able to the patient. After each time of fomenting, the belly ſhould be anointed with camphorated oil. This method not only relieves the ſymptoms mentioned, but, by taking off ſtrictures in the bowels, aſſiſts the laxative in carrying off the accumulation; and indeed, for that reaſon, often brings on a looſeneſs. When the ſtools, in that caſe, or from the bolus itſelf, or from any other cauſe, are too frequent, they muſt be moderated, but not ſtopped, by giving a ſpoonful of the following opiate after every looſe ſtool.

Take of ſpring water, four ounces; proof ſpirit, ſyrup of orange-peel, each half an ounce; laudanum, twenty drops: mix them.

An opiate, thus given, not only moderates the ſtools, but hath, beſides, an excellent effect in procuring reſt, which is always very deſirable to a weak patient; and particularly in this fever, where watchfulneſs and dejection of ſpirits are ſuch haraſſing ſymptoms. Sometimes I even promote a ſtool or two extraordinary, for the ſake of giving an opiate in this manner.

When

When a pain continues fixt, and violent in the belly, although the means already recommended have been uſed, a bliſter applied to the part will have the deſired effect.

Veneſection is never to be uſed in this fever, except it be complicated with inflammatory ſymptoms: and there is a good rule, in ſuch caſes, for that evacuation. If the pain be inconſiderable but during the exacerbations, you ſhould draw a little blood when it is at the worſt. Three ounces will give inſtant relief: and you may repeat the operation, in the ſame manner, every exacerbation till the pain is gone; which will be, after two or three bleedings at the moſt. By this method you will remove the inflammation, and ſave the ſtrength which is to carry the patient through the fever. It muſt however be remembered, that the inflamed part is to be fomented two or three times a day; and poultices of bread and milk with oil are to be applied during the intervals. I have ſeen ſome inſtances of this kind where the breaſts were the parts inflamed.

But, when the pain and other ſymptoms of inflammation are conſtant and violent,

violent, the lancet muſt be more freely uſed. I once met with a complication of this kind, where the womb was the part inflamed. I let blood freely once and again. Fomentations and poultices were conſtantly applied in ſucceſſion to the region of the womb. Purgings were uſed more liberally than if the fever had been ſimple. And large clyſters of warm water were thrown up, twice or thrice a day, to be retained in the intervals. By theſe means the woman had a very good recovery: and any ſuch complication, eſpecially if taken in time, will, I apprehend, yield to the ſame method even at the expence of leſs blood.

In all caſes with inflammation, the general treatment for the Puerperal Fever muſt be carried on at the ſame time.

Reſt, quietneſs, ſtillneſs, coolneſs, and an obſcure light are neceſſary for this patient. Her linen ſhould often, and the bedding ſometimes be changed. She may be laid in blankets upon a ſquab every day till her bed is made: but ſhe ſhould ſcarce ever attempt to ſit up in the courſe of this fever.

After the ſtools are come to their natural ſtate, and all feveriſh ſymptoms are

gone, ſo that the woman complains of nothing but lowneſs and weakneſs, ſhe may have her clothes on, and lie upon the bed with a quilt or ſingle blanket drawn over her. At this time, ſhe may begin to mend her diet with a bit of bread-pudding at mid-day. In a day or two, ſhe may venture on a little chicken, always remembering to make the beſt part of her meal of ſmall broth, and rather to eat often than much at a time, and never meat oftener than once a day. As the woman gets ſtrength, ſhe will gradually approach nearer and nearer to her natural diet; till at laſt ſhe come to go abroad, and may then live in her uſual manner.

In this convaleſcent ſtate little medicine is wanted, beſide as much rhubarb, in the manner preſcribed, as will give a ſtool or two extraordinary twice or thrice a week. In ſome particular caſes, two tea ſpoonfuls of any ſimple tincture of the Peruvian bark, taken every forenoon and afternoon in a cup of chamomile tea, will haſten the patient's recovery to her uſual health and ſtrength.

CHAP.

CHAP. IV.

Of the Method of preventing the PUERPERAL REMITTENT FEVER.

THE cure deſcribed in the preceding chapter hath never yet failed, where the diſeaſe was taken in time: for it is proper to obſerve, that this was generally employed in a ſimple ſtate of the diſeaſe; and that there are many inſtances of the Puerperal Fever, in which, as every other method hitherto attempted has failed, ſo *perhaps* this alſo would be found ineffectual. There is no abſolute ſecurity therefore but in prevention.

In order to prevent the Puerperal Fever, we muſt obviate all known cauſes: and, from what hath been hitherto ſaid, I hope this will be found no difficult taſk.

The pregnant woman ought to live on a ſpare cool diet, and to eat meat only at dinner.

Water, wine and water, or good ſmall beer is the beſt drink.

She ſhould uſe moderate exerciſe in the free air.

She ſhould go to bed at an early hour.

She ſhould never have a fire in her bedchamber: and every part of her habitation ſhould be temperate and airy.

She ſhould be at great pains to ſubdue all inordinate paſſions; and to keep her mind, as much as poſſible, happy and ſerene.

She ſhould have a ſtool every day by means of a laxative, if ſhe be not naturally regular in that reſpect. Eight or ten grains of the aloetick pills of the Edinburgh Diſpenſatory will, in general, anſwer this purpoſe well.

This is all that ſeems requiſite, by way of prevention, during pregnancy.

As ſoon as the woman is delivered, ſhe ſhould be kept ſtill and quiet, as though ſhe were in a fever; and ſupported, for the firſt two or three days, with only barley-water and gruel; and then ſmall broth may be added, by turns with theſe, for all her food.

The room ſhould be kept cool, by regulating the fire according to the ſeaſon of the year; and by admitting freſh air cautiouſly by a door or window from time to time.

The

The ſtools and urine, as ſoon as made, ſhould always be carried out of the room.

All the linen about the woman ſhould be ſhifted, at leaſt every other day.

A clyſter of half a ſpoonful of common ſalt diſſolved in a pint of warm water and oil, each equal parts, ſhould be given the day after delivery. The bolus, ſo often mentioned, ſhould be given on the third night from delivery; and repeated, every ſecond night, with a view to cleanſe the guts.

In a week or ten days, all danger will be over.

I know from experience that this method will have the deſired effect in preventing the Puerperal Fever, that would otherwiſe be of a mild nature: but, when a fever of a very malignant tendency is to be apprehended, ſome further precaution is neceſſary.

In ſuch a caſe, beſide a due obſervance of the rules already laid down, the woman ought not to run the riſk of delivery in any place where the Puerperal Fever is either frequent or fatal. The mortality of this fever in London cannot poſſibly be

aſcribed

aſcribed to any other cauſe than a peculiar ſtate of the air; for no part of the world is ſupplied with abler or more experienced phyſicians.

People of faſhion therefore who would wiſh to ly-in in London, may fulfil their purpoſe with equal convenience in ſome healthful ſituation within a few miles of that city: they will then be as ſafe as in any other country place; and, beſide, will have all the advantages of ſuperiour help. I muſt however obſerve, that pregnant women ought not to think it enough that they retire to the country juſt at the time of delivery: the laſt month or two of pregnancy ſpent in the country would be an excellent preparation for paſſing ſafely and eaſily through the puerperal ſtate.

I hope a proper attention to what hath been advanced in this ſhort chapter will contribute greatly towards preventing a diſorder, which, in no ſtate, is abſolutely free from danger.

CHAP.

CHAP. V.

Cases of the Puerperal Remittent Fever.

THE preceding obſervations were made entirely within the circle of my own practice: and I have been cautious of admitting any theory that does not evidently ariſe out of the facts which are related. From a deſire of imparting firmneſs and authenticity to the whole, I ſhall now ſet down a few of the caſes which gave origin to theſe obſervations: and, that the caſes may the more effectually anſwer the purpoſe, my narration ſhall be full and particular. From a careful peruſal of theſe caſes, the competent reader will likewiſe ſee, why ſome remedies, though much in uſe, are omitted in the general cure for the Puerperal Fever. I never ſaw any die of this diſeaſe; and conſequently can give no diſſections: nor do I think this any defect in the preſent work; ſince the Puerperal Fever is one of thoſe diſorders, that ſeldom or never prove fatal till they have degenerated into a more complicated malady.

CASE I.

TUESDAY, July 2, 1765. Mrs. A. B. aged twenty-six years, was brought to bed, ſome weeks before the time, this day ſevennight. Every thing went on as well as could be wiſhed till the evening of the third day; when, having catched cold, or exerted her ſpirits too much, ſhe was ſeized with a chilneſs, ſucceeded by heat, thirſt, ſickneſs, pain of the left ſide, affecting her breathing, and a quick pulſe. As it was thought that this diſorder might be owing to her milk, her breaſts, though ſhe had no complaint in them, were carefully drawn, and rubbed with oil. Next day, ſhe had a ſtool by means of a clyſter. On Sunday at noon, ſhe got ten grains of rhubarb; which began to operate in the evening: and, ſince that time, ſhe has had many ſtools; the laſt of which was at ſeven this morning. The ſtools are copious, ſlimy, lumpy, of various colours, and very offenſive. After the looſeneſs began, ſhe was ſeized with violent pain in her back, which continued till this morning; when it has ſhifted into her belly, and affects it all over with great

great violence, and a ſenſe of bearing down. Breaking wind relieves the pain. There is often a rumbling noiſe in her belly. Yeſterday morning, upon the lochia ceaſing, ſhe began to hawk up great quantities of tough phlegm; and continued to do ſo all day. She has had little or no ſleep ſince the looſeneſs began. Her breathing is ſtill affected. She is thirſty; and often ſick at ſtomach. Her pulſe is quick, and not low. She is of a weakly habit; and has been generally unhealthy all her life. Her ſpirits are naturally unequal, being either high or low. She was often ill during pregnancy, eſpecially of the pain in her left ſide, attended with feveriſh ſymptoms: and bleeding, and bliſters, always did her good. During that period ſhe lived chiefly on milk.

The belly is to be fomented with cloths, wrung out of the common fomentation, agreeably warm, for half an hour, or longer, at a time; and as often as the pain becomes violent: and it is to be anointed, after each time, with a little camphorated oil.

She has been fomented many different times: and ſhe is much eaſier this evening.

Her ſtools were more copious, and more frequent than ever, upon fomenting: ſhe had particularly a very large ſtool, after each of the firſt four fomentations. The ſtools now come away almoſt inſenſibly; are ſtill very offenſive; and ſome of them froth and ferment like barm. She feels the ſtools to come, as it were entirely, from her left ſide. Her breathing is now free. Her ſpirits are better; and ſhe finds herſelf very happy: but ſtill ſhe has no diſpoſition to ſleep. She has ſweated the greateſt part of the afternoon. The thirſt continues; but the ſickneſs is gone. Hardneſſes and inequalities are felt in her belly. Her pulſe is quick.

The fomentation and oil are continued: and ſhe is to take a ſpoonful or two of the following mixture when low.

Take of ſimple mint water, and ſpring water, each three ounces; ſyrup of orange peel, an ounce; ſalt of hartſhorn, twenty grains: mix them.

July 3. She had two ſtools in the night. She ſlept none; though ſhe continued pretty eaſy till five this morning; when her whole belly, but particularly

the left ſide of it from about the height of the navel down to the groin, became affected with violent pain; which has continued with very little intervals; and is rather growing worſe this forenoon. Breaking wind ſtill relieves the pain. The belly is not tenſe. The thirſt continues. Her ſkin is pretty cool. Her pulſe is ſharp, but ſcarce ſo quick.—As the mixture heated her, ſhe has taken it but twice. The fomentation and oil do not relieve her now.

The ſame method is continued: and a large bliſter is to be applied immediately to the left ſide of her belly.

Having been very ſick, ſhe encouraged vomiting by drinking chamomile tea; and brought up ſome green phlegm. She has had ſix ſtools of a more natural colour, but ſtill lumpy. The pain continues violent this afternoon. She is often very low, and deſpairs of living. She is much troubled with wind; and breaks ſome by means of the mixture; but ſtill complains of its heat.

The mixture, fomentation, and oil, are to be omitted. She is deſired to take a

ſpoonful of ſimple mint water, when low; and two ſpoonfuls of the following julep immediately.

Take of the chalk julep, eight ounces; laudanum, ſixteen drops: mix them.

She ſlept ſound for an hour after the julep. Her belly is free from pain to-night. Her pulſe is ſtill quick.—The mint water relieves her; and is to be continued.

July 4. She ſlept none, and was very low, in the night; and continues ſo to-day. She is frequently ſick, and retches, and brings up tough phlegm.—She alſo vomits whatever ſhe takes. Her urine is copious, and with a ſediment.—She is to take four grains of ipecacuanha immediately for a vomit.

She threw up a great deal of phlegm with the vomit; and afterward had two ſtools, looſe, and of a more natural appearance. She is very low, and loaths all ſorts of food to-night; but has not retched ſince the operation of the vomit. She complains much of thirſt; and yet ſays ſhe cannot ſwallow, on account of a heat

and dryneſs in her throat; though nothing amiſs can be ſeen in it. Her tongue is moiſt. Her ſkin is cool. She wiſhes much for ſleep, having had none all day. —She got a little burnt wine diluted with water after the vomit: and it agreed with her. She alſo likes the mint water; and ſays it does her good. She is allowed to take a little of either occaſionally. Chicken broth and panado are ordered for her, by turns, every two hours, when awake; and the following draught immediately.

Take of ſimple mint water, and lemon juice, each half an ounce; ſalt of tartar, twenty grains; rhubarb, five grains; laudanum, eight drops: mix them.

July 5. She had frequent refreſhing ſleeps in the night; and took her food regularly. Her ſpirits are better this morning. Her pulſe is ſcarce ſo quick, and not low. She has had a tolerable day, having made no complaint but of lowneſs. She has had ſome unrefreſhing ſleep. She is ſtill thirſty: and her pulſe is, to-night, much as in the morning. Her tongue is

moiſt. Her ſkin is temperate. She has had no ſtool.

The mint water is to be continued occaſionally: and the draught, without laudanum, is to be repeated to-night. She took a ſpoonful of the following decoction at four in the afternoon; and is to take another at ſix in the morning.

Take of the Peruvian bark powdered, one ounce; ſpring water, three Engliſh pints: boil them together to one pint; and ſtrain the liquor for uſe.

July 6. Laſt night, ſhe became ſick, upon taking a little cowſlip wine; and vomited a great deal of phlegm. She had ſeveral refreſhing ſleeps, of half an hour at a time, in the night; and is not ſo low to-day. She has had two looſe ſtools; and, after the laſt, ſhe got two ſpoonfuls of the chalk julep with laudanum. Her tongue is moiſt: but ſhe is ſtill thirſty. Her ſkin is cool. Her pulſe is almoſt calm. She has little or no appetite: but ſometimes ſhe takes broth, or ſago, or bread and a little wine much diluted with water.—She is to take a ſpoonful of the decoction

decoction at noon; and two ſpoonfuls at four in the afternoon.

She had ſome refreſhing ſleep in the afternoon. The urine continues copious. Her thirſt is leſs. Her pulſe is quicker than in the morning. She ſays, ſhe is better in every reſpect to-night.---She is to take two ſpoonfuls of the decoction immediately, and at ſix in the morning.

July 7. She paſſed a very good night; and has had two hours refreſhing ſleep this evening. About eleven to-day, ſhe was ſeized with pain in her belly; which, in a quarter of an hour, went off, upon her menſtrual diſcharge coming down: and it ſtill continues. Her chief complaint is lowneſs. Her pulſe is a little quick, and rather low. She has had one open ſtool, that is, neither looſe, nor coſtive.

She is to take two ſpoonfuls of the decoction every ſix hours.

July 8. She has had a good night. She complains of lowneſs, and, now and then, of gripes, this morning. She has broke a great deal of wind downwards ſince laſt night; as ſhe has done through the whole

courſe

courſe of her diſorder. Her tongue is cleaner.—She is to take three ſpoonfuls of the decoction every ſix hours.

She has paſſed a pretty good day; and has taken liquid food now and then. Her pulſe is ſtill a little quick. Her courſes continue: but in very ſmall quantity. She has had no ſtool.—The ſame method is continued: and the draught is to be repeated to-night.

July 9. She has paſſed a pretty good night. Upon having two open ſtools, ſhe got two ſpoonfuls of the chalk julep with laudanum. She had juſt a ſhow of her courſes to day. She complains much of pain in making water. Her pulſe is ſtill a little quick.

The decoction is continued.

July 10. She reſted ill in the night, having been diſturbed with the child. She has had a ſtool of a natural appearance.

The ſame method is continued.

July 11. She was chilly about noon; and has been hotter, and more feveriſh ſince. She complains of pain in her back and belly: the latter is relieved by breaking

ing wind. The courſes are rather in more quantity. She has had no ſtool.

The decoction is continued; and ſhe is to take four ſpoonfuls of the tincture of roſes every four hours.

July 12. She reſted well in the night. The chilneſs returned about four in the afternoon: ſince which, the pains of her back and belly have been worſe; her courſes more copious; and her ſpirits very low. Her pulſe is quick, and ſomewhat hard. She has had one open ſtool.

The ſame method is continued: and a draught, as laſt ordered, but without rhubarb, is to be given with each doſe of the decoction.

July 13. She has had a pretty good night. Her courſes are ſtill in conſiderable quantity; eſpecially when ſhe is moved. She ſweats ſometimes, particularly when aſleep. She has no thirſt. Her ſkin is more temperate. Her pulſe is ſofter, and calmer. She has had an open ſtool.

The ſame courſe is to be continued.

July 14. Though free from all pain, or uneaſineſs, ſhe was reſtleſs, and did not ſleep, till four in the morning: ſhe then ſlept ſound till eight. She was

chilly for a little in the morning. — She has had two or three hours refreſhing ſleep this evening. The uterine flux is much leſs: but piles begin to be troubleſome to her; though they do not bleed. Her ſkin is cool. Her pulſe is ſoft, and calmer. —She takes a good deal of lemon juice in her drink.

The ſame courſe is continued.

July 15. She reſted pretty well in the night; and had none of the uterine diſcharge till this morning; when it returned in very ſmall quantity, upon her having a very coſtive ſtool. — The chilneſs, or creeping, as ſhe expreſſes it, came on in the afternoon: ſince which ſhe has been hot, and not ſo well. She is aſleep this evening.

The ſame method is continued: and the rhubarb draught, as laſt ordered, is repeated to-night.

July 16. She was diſtreſſed with headach, great reſtleſsneſs, and the uterine flux, through the whole night. She had a very hard ſtool in the morning; which gave her great pain in coming away, though it was aſſiſted by an emollient clyſter, and other means.

means. She has been eaſier ſince; but is ſtill feveriſh: and ſhe had frequent ſlight chills, or creepings, through the day. She has alſo been often troubled with gripes, which were relieved by exploding wind backward, in great quantities. She complains of a ſtuffing at her ſtomach; and wiſhes ſhe could ſpit. The flux is much leſs this evening. She has had ſome ſleep.

The ſame method is continued: and half an ounce of manna is to be taken immediately.

July 17. She paſſed a better night. She had a very large, and very coſtive, ſtool in the morning. The fulneſs at her ſtomach is gone: but ſhe is troubled with gripes, and, now and then, with chills. Her pulſe is ſtill quick. The uterine diſcharge is gone.

The ſame courſe is continued: and the manna is to be repeated, with the addition of two drams of Glauber's ſalt, in a draught.

July 18. She had a ſhow of her courſes, after voiding a very hard ſtool, laſt night.

night. She ſweated a great deal, and was often chilly, in the night.

The decoction, and tincture, are omitted. The ſaline draughts are continued, The laxative is to be repeated.

July 21. She has either got a whole laxative draught, or half a one, every day ſince laſt report; and has never been without a ſtool, and oftener two, in the day. She has never paſſed a day without ſome chills, or creepings. She often complains of pain in her belly; which, ſhe thinks, proceeds from wind. She is frequently diſtreſſed with troubleſome dreams. Her pulſe is quick, eſpecially in the evening. This morning, ſhe has had a ſtool, which is large, very black, looſe, and full of hard lumps.

She is deſired to confine herſelf to a milk diet. The ſaline draughts are continued.

July 22. She has been much diſtreſſed with pains in her belly to-day. She has had a very coſtive ſtool. Her pulſe is quick.

She is to take five grains of calomel, made up into a bolus with a little conſerve

of

of roſes, to-night; and the uſual laxative draught, at the ſame time.

July 26. She has had ſtools from day to day, partly by clyſters, and partly by the laxative draughts. The ſtools have always been black, and full of ſlime, ſkins, and hard lumps. She has paſſed a dead worm this morning. Her ſleep is ſometimes diſturbed with dreams. Her belly is ſtill a little pained. Her pulſe is almoſt calm.

A bolus with ſeven grains of calomel, and the laxative draught, are to be repeated to-night.

July 28. Yeſterday ſhe had three ſtools, full of ſlime, ſkins, and pieces of dead worms. She has had no ſtool to-day, though ſhe got a clyſter. Her pulſe is calm.—She is to take one of the following pills, every four hours, till ſhe have a ſtool, beginning immediately.

Take of ſocotorine aloes, and hard ſoap, each a dram; balſam of Peru, as much as is ſufficient to make a ſoft maſs; which is to be divided equally into twenty four pills.

July

July 29. She has had two ſtools of a more natural colour, and without the uſual mixture. She has no complaint, but weakneſs.——She has taken five pills.

July 30. She voided a very large, ſlimy, ſtool, with much pain, in the night; but has been eaſy ever ſince.

She is to take two of the pills at bed-time.

July 31. She has had one ſtool.—She is directed to take two pills every night, and four ſpoonfuls of the following mixture every forenoon and afternoon.

Take of a decoction of the Peruvian bark, one pint; ſimple tincture of the ſame, one ounce; ſalt of ſteel, thirty grains: mix them.

Auguſt 3. She gathers ſtrength; and is now able to walk about the room. She has a ſtool every day.—She is allowed ſome meat at dinner. The medicines are continued.

By perſevering in this courſe for ſome weeks, ſhe acquired health, and ſtrength, ſo as to be much better than ſhe had ever been before.

CASE

CASE II.

December 10, 1769. Mrs. C. D. aged twenty-four years, and of a delicate, thin habit, was brought to bed this day ſevennight of a healthy child, and her firſt after having been married above two years: but ſhe has had ſome abortions. It was a croſs birth; but every thing went on well. The lochia continued the uſual time: and ſtill there is a ſerous diſcharge. The milk alſo is in her breaſts. Theſe, and the belly, are quite ſoft, and natural. She is, however, in a fever, for which they can aſſign no cauſe: it is ſaid not to be of two days ſtanding; and to have begun without any ſenſible chill fit. She complained of great oppreſſion, and ſtraitneſs of breathing, ſickneſs, retching, and hawking up of phlegm: but ſhe is much better ſince morning; when ſhe had two or three ſtools by means of a clyſter, having been before deficient in that reſpect from her delivery. The ſickneſs, and retching, are gone. The hawking continues. Her breathing is much

better. Her tongue is moiſt. She is thirſty. Her ſkin is ſoft. Her pulſe beats a hundred and thirty ſtrokes in the minute.

She is to take the ſaline draught with five grains of rhubarb, as in the preceding caſe, every four hours, till ſhe have three or four ſtools.

December 11. She has paſſed a very good night, having ſlept ſound for ſeveral hours. She has had four, very offenſive, dark, ſlimy, ſtools. She feels quite happy, and free from complaints, ſince ſhe has had the ſtools. Her reſpiration is free. Her pulſe is calmer. Her heat, and thirſt are leſs.

The draughts are to be continued in the ſame manner: and five grains of ipecacuanha are to be given for a vomit, in caſe of ſickneſs and retching.

December 16. Having been called again this day, I find her very ill about eight in the evening. She brought up a great deal of phlegm, with the vomit, a few days ago. She has ſweated profuſely, for ſeveral hours to-day, from a doſe of James's powder; but the fever notwithſtanding

ſtanding continues. She is delirious, though ſhe knows every body, and gives diſtinct anſwers to queſtions. She gripes the bed clothes very much, and makes circular motions with her fore-arms, the one alternately moving round the other as an axis. She ſighs often and heavily. Her tongue is dry. Her milk is almoſt gone. Her breaſts and belly continue ſoft. She has taken a doſe or two of the Peruvian bark: but ſhe loathes it, and throws up every thing. Both urine and ſtools come away inſenſibly. The ſtools are black, and very offenſive.

The vomit is to be repeated immediately.

December 17. She brought up a great deal of ropy phlegm with the vomit: and, as the vomiting continued after the ſtomach was cleared, ſhe got ten drops of laudanum. She was not able to ſwallow ſo much as a tea ſpoonful of any thing in the night. She has no notion of ſwallowing this morning: for when any liquor is put into her mouth, and ſhe is deſired to ſwallow it, ſhe toſſes it to and fro, and then ſquirts it out, as though, ſhe con-

ceived that, it was not in her power to let it down. Though delirious ſhe ſtill knows every body; and is low ſpirited, and unhappy, about the grief her parents will be in when they come to know of her ſituation. She continues to hawk up frothy phlegm, to gripe the clothes, and perform the circular motions. Her breaſts and bowels are ſoft. Her ſkin is cooler. Her pulſe is not ſo quick, and ſtill regular.—She got a clyſter of a pint of broth with half an ounce of the extract of the bark and five drops of laudanum, in the night: and it is to be repeated this morning. She is alſo to have a little wine-whey, or wine and water, now and then.

She is rather better this evening, having taken the vinous liquors, and broth, through the day, and kept them.—She is to take half an ounce of the ſpirituous tincture of rhubarb immediately; and two tea ſpoonfuls of the following tincture, every three hours, in a little wine and water.

Take of the ſimple tincture of the Peruvian bark, two ounces; laudanum, eight drops.

Decem-

December 18. She has had ſeveral hours refreſhing ſleep in the night. She is amazingly better this morning. She talks rationally, and ſays ſhe is much better. The circular motions are gone. Her tongue is moiſt. Her ſkin is cool. Her pulſe is ſtill quick. She has had two ſtools of a much better appearance.—The ſame diet is continued: and five of the following pills, with a ſaline draught, are ordered for her every three hours.

Take of the extract of the Peruvian bark, two drams; extract of liquorice, half a dram; ſyrup of ſaffron, a ſufficient quantity to make a ſoft maſs; which is to be divided into forty pills.

December 19. She has had a good night; and continues better to-day.

The pills are to be continued: and the draught is to be taken with every other doſe.—The tincture of rhubarb is to be repeated at night; and afterward occaſionally.

After this ſhe mended daily; and ſoon became plump, ſtrong, and healthy.

CASE III.

Friday, april 17, 1772. Mrs. E. F. aged about thirty years, was brought to bed of her firſt child on ſunday morning; and had a very good time. She found herſelf very well that day, monday and tueſday. On this laſt day the milk came in her breaſts: and the lochia continued in the ſame quantity, but were paler. This ſame day, ſhe eat for dinner ſome calf's heel, and drank ſome ſmall beer after it: and, in the evening, ſhe was ſeized with chilneſs, pain in her head, and back, weakneſs of her breath, ſinking of her ſpirits, and thirſt: which complaints, except the chilneſs that was ſucceeded by heat, have continued ever ſince. She has alſo been affected with an uneaſy heat of her eyes, ears, and neck, at times, ever ſince the fever came on. She had a very ſmall ſtool, by means of a clyſter, on monday. At ſix on tueſday evening, ſhe got two aloetick pills; two at ten; as many at midnight; and a fourth doſe early in the morning: notwithſtanding of which

which ſhe had no paſſage till yeſterday in the afternoon, when ſhe had a very large, foul, ſtool, and two ſmaller looſe ones. She then took two ſpoonfuls of an opiate mixture; and has had no ſtool ſince. From the time ſhe took the pills, till they began to operate, ſhe had great pain in her bowels; often retched violently, and now and then brought up ſome phlegm. She now deſpairs of living; is much lower ſince the ſtools; and has ſtill ſome pain in her bowels, though her belly be ſoft. She does not appear hot; but her ſkin is hot, and rather moiſt. She is very thirſty. She feels inwardly as though ſhe were quite hollow. She has no deſire for food; and has as yet, for the moſt part, only taken gruel, and ſago with a little wine; and theſe in very ſmall quantity. Her pulſe is very quick, and feeble. Her digeſtion is naturally weak. She is of a very coſtive habit. During pregnancy ſhe was much troubled with phlegm, ſourneſs of her ſtomach, and conſtipation. For this laſt complaint, neither rhubarb, or magneſia, had any effect: and ſhe generally required an uncommon doſe of the aloetick pills to

give her a ſtool.—She is to have gruel, barley-water, and ſmall broth, by turns, for all her food; and three ſpoonfuls of the following mixture every three hours.

Take of mint-water, five ounces; camphorated julep, two ounces; pure nitre, forty grains; ſyrup of orange-peel, an ounce.

She had a mild, general ſweat, to-day. She has ſlept ſound, near four hours, this evening. Her pulſe is calmer, and firmer. The ſame method is continued.

April 18. She was ſeized with a coldneſs of her legs, laſt night, between ten and eleven; which made her ſhake all over for two hours. She was afterward flushed, and hot, for ſome hours: and then an univerſal ſweat ſucceeded. She has had little or no ſleep. Her ſkin is moiſt this morning. Her pulſe is not ſo quick. She has had no ſtool.—She diſlikes broth; but takes gruel, and barley-water, plentifully; and is allowed tea, as ſhe deſires it.

She had a very ſevere ſhaking fit, which began at ten in the morning, and laſted

two hours; ſhe was afterward hot for two hours and a half; and is in a gentle univerſal ſweat this afternoon. She complains of a tremour through all her bones, notwithſtanding the ſweat. Her pulſe is very low, and quick.—The ſweat is going off to-night. Her pulſe is calmer, and firmer. She has had two brown, looſe, ſtools.

The ſame method is continued; and ſhe is to have a bolus of five grains of rhubarb, and as much of the cordial confection, immediately. A bliſter is alſo to be applied to her arm this night; and is to ly on twenty-four hours.

April 19. She ſhivered for a ſhort time laſt night. She reſted well in the night. She had a ſlight rigour about ſeven this morning, being almoſt as ſoon as ſhe awaked; and it would come now, but ſhe checks it. Her urine lets fall a ſmooth, white, ſediment. She has had no ſtool—The mixture is continued. The bolus is to be repeated immediately, and at three in the afternoon.

She had a ſtool, of a good colour, in the afternoon. She ſlept for an hour this even-

evening. She was chilly for a little about eight; and has been hot, and flushed, these two hours. She thinks she cannot recover. Her pulse is very low, and quick.—The following draught is to be given immediately, and repeated at four in the morning.

Take of mint-water, and lemon-juice, each half an ounce; proof spirit, two drams; salt of tartar, twenty grains; salt of hartshorn, three grains.

April 20. Six in the morning. She has slept near an hour to-night. She desponds much. The urine lately made, and though still warm in the glass, breaks. Her skin is cool, and rather moist. Her pulse is low, and rather quick. She has had a small stool.—She is to take two spoonfuls of the following mixture every two hours, beginning immediately.

Take of mint-water, eight ounces; extract of the Peruvian bark, two drams; laudanum, twelve drops.

She

She has paſſed a tolerable day; and ſays ſhe is better to-night. She has had no chilneſs; but has been rather flushed, and hot, for a little time paſt. Her urine is copious, and of a good colour. She has had another ſmall ſtool.—She has finiſhed the mixture: and ſhe took, beſides, a ſaline draught in the afternoon.

She is to take four ſpoonfuls of the nitrous mixture immediately. The bark is to be repeated, and taken every three hours, beginning at one in the morning.

April 21. She reſted a little in the night; and has had two very ſmall ſtools. Her ſkin is rather hot, and her pulſe rather quick, this morning.—She has had a painful ſenſation all over her body for theſe two days; ſo that ſhe cannot bear to be touched. The ſame pain is in her belly, and groins: but her belly is ſoft. Her ſkin is hot, and moiſt. Her pulſe is quick, and rather tenſe, to-night. The urine is not high coloured: and it lets fall a white ſediment. She has had four ſtools ſince noon: and, after the laſt, ſhe took a ſpoonful of the following opiate.

Take

Take of ſpring water, four ounces; proof ſpirit, ſyrup of orange-peel, each half an ounce; laudanum, twenty drops.

She is deſired to take the nitrous mixture, inſtead of the bark, till five in the morning; when ſhe is again to begin with the laſt, and continue it every four hours.

April 22. She ſlept a little in the night. She complains much of the pains in her bowels, and ſoreneſs all over her. She is ſtill very low ſpirited, and apprehenſive. She breaks wind freely. Her ſkin is moiſt, and cooler this morning. Her pulſe is calmer and firmer. She has had ſome looſe ſtools.—She is to take one ſpoonful of the bark mixture, with an equal quantity of the following julep, every four hours; and alſo a ſpoonful of the ſame julep now and then when low.

Take of mint-water, ſeven ounces; ſyrup of orange peel, half an ounce; ſalt of hartſhorn, thirty graine.

She

She was eaſy, and quiet, moſt of the afternoon; and had a ſhort, but refreſhing, ſleep. She complains, to-night, of the tremour, and general tenderneſs, with pain in her groins. The uterine diſcharge gradually leſſened; and has been quite gone thoſe two days. The urine is a ſhade paler, and depoſes a lighter ſediment. Her ſkin is moiſt, and ſcarce ſo hot as laſt night: nor is her pulſe ſo quick. She has had ſix ſtools, in all, ſince laſt night: and they are very offenſive and dark.—She has taken ſmall wine-whey by turns with her other food to-day.

The bark is omitted. The other medicines are continued.

April 23. She ſlept two hours in the night; but none to-day. Her pulſe has been ſoft, equal, and quick, all day. She complains ſtill of great lowneſs; and thinks ſhe ſhall die. Her tongue is moiſt. Her ſkin is moiſt, and not hot. She makes urine in abundance; but cannot bear the trouble of having it ſaved. She has had ſix ſtools ſince laſt night, notwithſtanding the uſe of the opiate mixture; but none

none ſince three in the afternoon, when ſhe got ſix drops of laudanum in two ſpoonfuls of the julep.—She is allowed panado with a little wine, by turns with the food recommended. She is to have two ſpoonfuls of the nitrous mixture every three hours, beginning immediately. The julep and opiate mixture are alſo to be continued occaſionally.

April 24. The general ſoreneſs, and tremour, are leſs to-night. She has ſlept, in all about three hours, ſince laſt night. She ſtill deſponds. Her pulſe is equal, but too quick. Her urine is high coloured. She has had four ſtools.

The ſame method is continued.

April 25. She has had no ſleep laſt night, or to-day. Her ſkin has been cool all day. Her pulſe is ſoft, equal, and almoſt calm. The urine is turbid, and lets fall a groſs ſediment. She has had five ſtools: the laſt of which was a little ago; and it is brown, ſlimy, and very offenſive.

The bolus was repeated in the afternoon: and leſt the colour of the ſtools may, in part, be owing to the extract of the

the Peruvian bark, ſhe got a ſpoonful of the following mixture; which is to be continued every ſix hours.

Take of a decoction of the Peruvian bark, eight ounces; ſimple tincture of the ſame, half an ounce; laudanum, twenty-four drops.

The nitrous mixture is omitted. The julep and opiate mixture are to be continued as uſual.

April 26. She has ſlept a good deal, eſpecially ſince morning. The general ſoreneſs is gone: but ſhe complains of pain in her left arm, to-night; which gives her the ſenſation as though it were broken. Her ſkin is pretty cool. Her pulſe is rather too quick. The urine depoſes a good ſediment; but ſtill retains too much colour. She has had three brown ſtools.

The bark is diſcontinued. She is to take two ſpoonfuls of the nitrous mixture every four hours, beginning immediately. —The bolus is alſo to be repeated to-night; and the arm is to be anointed with cam-

camphorated oil, and afterward wrapt in flannel.

April 27. She has had little or no ſleep ſince laſt report. Her head is a little confuſed to-night. The urine continues muddy, after depoſing a good ſediment. Her ſkin is pretty cool. Her pulſe is a little quick. She has had three dark ſtools.

The ſame method is to be continued: and the bolus is to be repeated, both at night, and in the morning.

April 28. She ſlept a little in the night, but none to-day. Her pulſe has been quick, eſpecially ſince noon. Her ſkin is moiſt, and pretty cool, to-night. The tremour, and tenderneſs, are almoſt gone. Her appetite is better. She thinks herſelf mending.

The ſame method, with the bolus, is to be continued.

April 29. She ſlept for three hours in the morning. Her pulſe was calm moſt of the day; but is rather quick this evening. The urine depoſes a pink ſediment. She has had two ſtools of the uſual appearance.---She had her clothes on today; and lay upon the bed, and ſat up ſometimes.

The

The nitrous mixture is continued, with the addition of a dram of magneſia to the whole quantity. The boluſes are continued.

April 30. She reſted none in the night; but has had ſome ſleep to-day. Her toes were a little cold in the afternoon; and ſhe has been hot and fluſhed ſince. Her pulſe is quicker to-night. The pain of her arm is ſtill bad. She is alſo troubled with pain at her ſtomach. She has had one ſtool.

The mixture is repeated, with two drams of magneſia. The boluſes are alſo to be continued, with the addition of three grains of rhubarb to each. A bliſter is to be applied to the pained part of the arm, to-night.

May 1. She had little or no ſleep in the night; but has ſlept above an hour to-day. She was hot and feveriſh, through the day. Her ſkin is cool, and her pulſe calm, and rather low, to-night. Her urine continues to break; and is ſcarce ſo high coloured. Her appetite is good. She has had four dark ſtools: and they have made her very low.

The nitrous mixture with magneſia is to be continued: and two ſpoonfuls of the bark are to be taken every ſix hours, beginning immediately.

May 2. She reſted none in the night; but has had refreſhing ſleep, for two hours, this afternoon. The urine is high-coloured, and only with a cloud. Her ſkin is cool, and her pulſe calm, this evening. She has had two ſmall ſtools of a better colour.—She has lain upon the bed, in her clothes, moſt of the day.

The ſame courſe is continued; only the bark is to be repeated without laudanum.

May 3. She was reſtleſs, and feveriſh, in the night. She has had five copious, dark, and offenſive ſtools. The urine depoſes a whitiſh ſediment. She is in a ſweat this morning.—She is to have five drops of laudanum immediately. The mixture with magneſia is omitted. The bark is to be continued.

She has been hot and fluſhed, ſince three in the afternoon. She ſweats this evening. Her pulſe is quick. She has had a ſmall ſtool.—The Bark mixture is omitted.

omitted. She is to have two ſpoonfuls of the magneſia mixture immediately; and the ſame quantity at four in the morning. The bolus is to be repeated to-night.

May 4. She has had ſeveral refreſhing ſleeps ſince laſt night, Her ſkin is cool this morning. Her pulſe is quick. She has had no ſtool.—She is to take a dram of magneſia, in two ounces of ſimple mint water, immediately.

She was hot, and fluſhed, a good part of the day; and ſweated profuſely till of late. Her pulſe is ſtill quick this evening. The urine is a ſhade lighter. She has had one ſmall ſtool.—She is to take three ſpoonfuls of the nitrous mixture with magneſia, every four hours, till ſhe have a ſtool: and a ſaline draught, with ſixteen grains of rhubarb and as many drops of laudanum, is to be taken to-night.

May 5. She has paſſed a very reſtleſs night. She has had four, large, dark, ſlimy, ſtools: the laſt of which was at four this morning, when the mixture was diſcontinued. Her ſkin is hot, and her pulſe quick, this evening.—The mixture

with magneſia is to be repeated every four hours till ſhe have a ſtool, beginning immediately.

She ſat up for an hour to-day; and was in better ſpirits than uſual. Her pulſe is quick this evening. She has had four ſmall ſtools, dark, and ſlimy, like frogs ſpawn.—The rhubarb draught, with twenty-five drops of laudanum, is to be repeated to-night: and ſhe is to begin the mixture in the morning at four.

May 6. She ſlept from ten to four this morning; and awaked much refreſhed. She has been troubled with hot, and ſweating fits, to-day; and with ſome pain of her ſtomach, at times. Her urine is a ſhade paler; and depoſes a light, white, ſediment. Her pulſe is a little quick this evening. She has had four ſmall ſtools of the uſual appearance.—She has taken the mixture every three hours.

The draught is to be repeated at ten: and ſhe is to begin the mixture, as ſoon as ſhe awakes, in the morning; and to go on with it every three hours.

May 7. She had a tolerably quiet night; but did not ſleep much. She ſweated a good deal early in the morning.

She

She ſays, ſhe was very hot, and feveriſh, to-day. She was alſo affected with pain, and great oppreſſion, at her ſtomach; and felt, as though ſhe ſhould die, if ſhe did not vomit: but theſe ſymptoms went off with a ſtool. Her urine was paler in the morning; but that made ſince noon is high-coloured, even after depoſing a light white ſediment. To-night ſhe complains of pain in the ſide of her face. Her pulſe is little quicker than natural. She has had ſix, dark, ſlimy, ſtools.

The mixture is to be omitted. The draught is to be repeated to-night.

May 8. She had a quiet night; but did not ſleep much. She complains of a load at her ſtomach, this morning. Her ſkin is rather hot. Her pulſe is almoſt calm. The urine is paler.—She is to take twenty grains of ipecacuanha immediately for a vomit; and to drink chamomile tea to promote its operation.

The vomit operated only twice; and brought up ſome phlegm. She has had nine ſtools in all ſince laſt night; five before, and four ſince, the vomit: they are ſtill lumpy, and ſlimy; but, ſince the

vomit, have a yellowiſh caſt. She had a good deal of pain in her ſtomach and bowels, after the vomit, till ſhe began to have ſtools. The urine is now almoſt colourleſs. Her pulſe is ſtill a little quick. She only complains of lowneſs this evening.

She is to take a ſaline draught with thirty drops of laudanum, and ten grains of rhubarb, to-night.

May 9. She paſſed a good night. Her pulſe was quite calm, and her urine almoſt colourleſs, in the morning. About noon, whilſt at ſtool, ſhe became chilly, and ſhivered a little for a few minutes; and has been hot ever ſince. Her pulſe is a little quick this evening. She ſtill complains of her arm. The urine lets fall a groſs ſediment; and was high-coloured when made in the afternoon. She has had no ſtool.

The draught is to be repeated, with the addition of ſix grains of rhubarb: and ſhe is to take three ſpoonfuls of the magneſia mixture, every three hours, beginning at four in the morning.

May 10. She has had a good night. She finds herſelf eaſy this morning. Her pulſe is calm. Her ſkin is cool. The urine is of a ſtraw colour. She has had one dark ſtool.—She has been hot this afternoon, but not ſo much ſo as yeſterday. Her pulſe is ſtill rather quick this evening. The arm is worſt during the exacerbations: and, ſhe ſays, the heat of the pained part is then ſo great, that, were ſhe to be equally hot all over, it would be inſupportable. She is not thirſty. She diſlikes taking any liquid; becauſe, ſhe ſays, it heats her. She has had no ſtool.

The draught is to be repeated immediately; and the mixture continued, every three hours, through the night.

May 11. She paſſed a pretty quiet night; but had little ſleep till morning. She was often a little chilly in the day. Her pulſe was calm in the morning; but is a little quick to-night. Her ſkin is hot. She complains of great lowneſs, and that the heat of her eyes, and ears, is as bad as ever. The urine was of a pale ſtraw colour, and without ſediment, in the morning: that made ſince noon is

rather high coloured, and has a light, white, ſediment. She has had five, ſmall, dark, ſtools.—She has had her clothes on, and lien upon the bed as uſual.—The mixture was diſcontinued in the afternoon.

The draught, with the addition of five drops of laudanum, is to be continued.

May 12. She paſſed a reſtleſs night; and what ſleep ſhe had was not refreſhing. This morning, ſhe complains of the heat in her eyes, and ears, and of a ſinking in her ſpirits.—She is to take the following draught, every three hours, beginning immediately.

Take of a decoction of the Peruvian bark, two ounces; ſimple tincture of the ſame, a dram; extract of liquorice, fifteen grains.

The urine, made at ſix in the morning, was of a good colour; in the day, it was rather high-coloured, and broke; to-night, it is pale. She complains of ſoreneſs of her feet, as though they were covered with corns, pains of her knees and right arm, and great lowneſs. She

felt

felt lately, as though ſhe ſhould have been choaked with phlegm: and ſhe was then exceeding low. She has had two dark ſtools.

The draughts are to be continued. She is to have a ſaline draught, with thirty-five drops of laudanum and ten grains of rhubarb, to-night; and two ſpoonfuls of the julep, as often as ſhe is low.

May 13. She has had a good night, and day, having been only a little hot at times, and low. Her pulſe is calm. Her ſkin is hot. Her palms are moiſt. Her tongue is moiſt. She is not dry. She has had two dark ſtools: and the laſt, though ſmall, made her low.—She has taken three drops of laudanum, in each draught, ſince morning.

The draughts are to be taken every four hours, beginning to-night at ten o'clock. Ten grains of the cordial confection are to be added to each draught; and thirty drops of laudanum, to the firſt.

May 14. She has had an indifferent day. She was chilly about one o'clock, and has been hot ever ſince. Her pulſe

is

is quick. The left arm is very painful, eſpecially at the ſhoulder, and elbow; and the fore arm is œdematous. She has had no ſtool.

The draughts are omitted. She is to have a clyſter of chamomile tea with ſugar and oil immediately. She is to take the following bolus, as ſoon as it can be got ready, with three ſpoonfuls of the following julep: and the ſame quantity of the julep is to be taken every three hours after.

Take of rhubarb, and the cordial confection, each ten grains; laudanum, ten drops.

Take of mint-water, ſeven ounces; lemon juice, three ounces; proof ſpirit, ſyrup of orange-peel, each one ounce; ſalt of tartar, two drams.

May 15. She has paſſed an indifferent night. She has ſlept, for three hours, this morning. She complains much of her arm. She had a ſtool with the clyſter; but none ſince.

The julep is continued. A dram of magneſia is ordered to be taken immediately;

diately; and to be repeated in three hours. The arm is to be fomented, and afterward anointed with the camphorated oil.

She has been hot ever ſince noon. Her pulſe is quick to-night. She has had one coſtive ſtool.—It appears that, for ſome days, ſhe has been much teaſed, and carried about the room; under the notion that exerciſe is the only thing requiſite for her recovery.

The julep is continued. She is to have a bolus, of ſixteen grains of rhubarb and as much cordial confection, to-night.

May 16. Her arm is ſtill painful. Her pulſe is calm this morning. She has had three ſtools.—She had a ſlight feveriſh exacerbation in the afternoon. The urine was very high-coloured in the forenoon: ſome made ſince is leſs ſo. She has had one dark ſtool.

The julep and applications are continued: and the bolus is to be repeated at bed-time.

May 17. She was hot, and ſweated, in the night. She ſlept about an hour and a half in the morning.—She ſweated a little to-day, but without much heat. Her

pulſe has been calm all day. The urine is of a good colour, and without ſediment. She has had two ſtools.

The julep is omitted. She is to take fifteen drops of the acid elixir of vitriol every four hours; and a bolus of rhubarb, with the cordial confection, each eight grains, at bed-time.

May 18. She ſweated leſs in the night; and had ſome ſleep towards morning. She has paſſed a pretty good day. She has had one coſtive ſtool.

The drops are continued: and the bolus, with ten grains of rhubarb, is to be taken to-night.

May 19. She paſſed a better night than uſual, and a pretty good day. She ſeems to have no complaint but weakneſs. She has had three ſtools: and the laſt was of a bright yellow colour.

She has drank half a pint of aſſes milk for ſome mornings paſt: and, as it agrees with her, it is to be continued. The bolus, with eight grains of rhubarb, is to be repeated, every night, for ſome time.

CASE

CASE IV.

September 18, 1772. Mrs. G. H. aged thirty-three years, was brought to bed, on the tenth current, and had a very good time. On the third day from delivery, ſhe had ſeven or eight ſtools; and every day ſince, not leſs than three or four. At firſt, the ſtools were of a dark colour; but are now of a yellowiſh caſt. Her belly has been all over affected with ſoreneſs, ſince the third day; which ſometimes increaſes to violent pain, attended with rigours, but without any ſenſe of cold. Theſe rigours ſometimes continue half an hour at a time: and are never ſucceeded either by heat, or ſweats. Her belly is ſoft; and not much affected by preſſure. She has very little milk, though ſhe ſuckles her child. Her pulſe is *calm*. She is thirſty. Her appetite is bad.

She alſo labours under a violent cough, dyſpnoea, and copious, ſlimy, expectoration, of ſix months ſtanding: and her belly has been rather looſe, for the laſt three months. Her cough has always

been relieved by ſtools. Her breathing is free in proportion to the quantity of her expectoration: ſhe is much diſpoſed to ſweat, eſpecially in the night. Her habit of body is much extenuated.

The child is to be weaned immediately. The patient is to take a ſpoonful of the cordial mixture, as in the general method of cure, when low, or when the cough is troubleſome—a cup of chamomile-tea every forenoon and afternoon—and two of the following pills every night.

Take of chalk, gum arabick, and rhubarb, all powdered, each twenty grains; laudanum, twenty drops: mix, and reduce them, with a little water, to a ſoft maſs; which is to be formed into twelve equal pills.

The belly is alſo to be fomented for half an hour, and afterward anointed with the camphorated oil, every night and morning.

By this method, the diſorder in her bowels was ſoon entirely removed.

CASE

CASE V.

Thurſday, march 4, 1774. Mrs. J. K. aged forty-ſix years, was delivered of a child at the full time yeſterday morning. She has been ſubject, at times, to uterine hæmorrhages, for ſome months paſt. Laſt ſunday, having eat ſomething that diſagreed with her ſtomach, ſhe was ſeized with a vomiting and purging; on wedneſday ſhe had four ſtools from a laxative; and yeſterday, the uterine flux having been conſiderable, the waters about the child gone, and the labour-pains weak, it was judged neceſſary to haſten delivery by manual operation. The delivery was ſafe: and the child is healthy and plump.—She has paſſed a very indifferent night, having had very ſhort, unrefreſhing, ſlumbers. She complains much of pain acroſs her forehead, bearing down pains in her belly, lowneſs, and thirſt. She is apprehenſive that ſhe ſhall not live. Her tongue is moiſt. Her ſkin is rather hot. Her pulſe is low, and beats a hundred and thirty ſtrokes in the minute, this

this morning. Her pulſe is ſaid to have been quick, and low, for ſome days preceding delivery. She has had no ſtool ſince ſhe was brought to bed.

She is to have gruel, and barley-water, by turns, for all her food. She is to take the following draught every ſix hours, beginning immediately.

Take of ſimple mint-water, an ounce;
camphorated julep, half an ounce;
white ſugar, a dram and a half;
nitre, twenty grains.

The pain of her belly is gone. The headach continues. She is ſtill very apprehenſive, and low. Her pulſe is low, and beats a hundred and twenty-five ſtrokes in the minute, to-night. She has had no ſtool.

Small broth is added to her diet: and the draughts are to be continued. A clyſter, of a pint of chamomile tea and a large ſpoonful of common ſalt, is to be given immediately.

March 5. She had a good deal of refreſhing ſleep in the night. There is milk in her breaſts. The uterine flux diminiſhes.

niſhes. The urine is very copious. Her pulſe is low, and beats a hundred and ten ſtrokes in the minute, this morning. She had a dark, offenſive, looſe, ſtool, from the clyſter. — The ſame method is continued.

Her headach continues. Her belly is very ſoft. Her ſkin is cool. Her pulſe is low, and beats ninety-ſix ſtrokes in the minute to-night. Her urine is ſtill copious. The uterine diſcharge is very pale, and is ſaid to be great. There is a very offenſive ſmell about the patient.— The following draught is to be given every four hours, beginning immediately.

Take of a decoction of the Peruvian bark, an ounce and a half; ſimple tincture of the ſame, a dram; nitre, ten grains.

March 6. She was reſtleſs in the night; but had two hours ſleep this morning, attended with a general mild ſweat. She ſtill complains of headach and lowneſs. Her pulſe is ſcarce ſo low, and beats ninety ſtrokes in the minute. The urine is pale with ſome ſediment.

It now appears that the flux was not great, but trifling, yeſterday; as it is this morning. — She has taken three draughts; and ſays, they do her good. All the clothes, and even the bedding, have been changed.---The ſame courſe is continued.

She ſlept ſound for an hour, to-day. She had a chilly fit in the afternoon; and has been hot and thirſty ever ſince. The headach continues. The urine is of a watery colour, with ſome ſediment. The pulſe beats a hundred and fifteen ſtrokes in the minute this evening. She has had no ſtool. The fetor about the bed is almoſt gone.—The Bark is diſcontinued: and the nitrous draughts are to be repeated every ſix hours as before, ten grains of rhubarb being added to the firſt. The clyſter is to be repeated immediately: and a bliſter is to be applied to her arm this night.

March 7. She reſted well in the night. She had two ſtools with the clyſter; and a looſe one, this morning. All the ſtools were offenſive, and dark. Her headach is gone. Her pulſe beats ninety-ſix

ſtrokes

ſtrokes in the minute.—She has had a good day. Her ſpirits are good. Her appetite begins to be craving. The thirſt is gone. Her pulſe beats ninety-ſix ſtrokes in the minute to night.

The ſame method is continued.

March 8. She has paſſed a very good night. Her ſpirits are good this morning. Her ſkin is cool. Her pulſe beats ninety ſtrokes in the minute.—She complains of headach, and throbbing in her ears, to-night. Her ſkin is rather hot. Her ſpirits are low. Her pulſe beats ninety-ſix ſtrokes in the minute. She has had no ſtool ſince yeſterday.

The ſame courſe is continued: and ſhe is to have ten grains of rhubarb, and as much cordial confection, immediately.

March 9. She was reſtleſs in the night, was chilly, and afterward hot and ſweated: but ſhe had a very large, offenſive, dark ſtool, in the morning, which, ſhe ſays, relieved her much. She has ſlept almoſt all day; and is much refreſhed with the ſleep. Her ſkin is moiſt, and warmer than natural. Her pulſe is not low, and beats a hundred ſtrokes in the

minute, this afternoon. Her headach continues.

The bolus and draughts are continued.

March 10. She paſſed a pretty good night. She was chilly in the morning. She has no pain in her head, but upon being moved. Her tongue is moiſt. She has very little thirſt. Her ſkin is warmer than natural, and rather moiſt. The uterine flux is now very ſmall. Her pulſe beats a hundred ſtrokes in the minute, this afternoon. She has had no ſtool.—There are too many clothes on the bed, and too much fire in the room.

The medicines are continued: and the clyſter is to be repeated immediately.

March 11. She paſſed a good night. She had a ſmall ſtool of a better colour, from the clyſter; but none ſince. She is rather low; and has ſome pain in her head, this morning, but no where elſe. Her tongue is moiſt. Her ſkin is temperate. Her pulſe is rather low, and beats ninety ſtrokes in the minute. Her urine is of a yelloviſh colour with a white ſediment in ſmall quantity.

The

The draughts are to be continued, with an equal quantity of the polychreſt ſalt inſtead of nitre; and ſhe is to take half an ounce of manna immediately.

March 12. She reſted well laſt night. She had three very offenſive, dark, ſtools, in the morning: which evacuation raiſed her ſpirits greatly, and removed a ſourneſs of her ſtomach, that had been troubleſome to her.---She had ſhooting pains in her ears to-day, but no headach.---She is reſtleſs, and tired, this evening; and was ſo yeſterday, at the ſame time, owing, in a great meaſure, to her having ſeen, and converſed, with different people through the day. She is low, and apprehenſive. Her ſkin is moiſt, and warmer than natural. Her pulſe is not ſo low, and beats ninety ſtrokes in the minute. She complains of a chilly, creeping, numb, ſenſation, all over her ſkin, for ſome days; which ſhe had likeways been troubled with before her delivery. Her tongue is moiſt. Her urine continues copious. Her appetite is not ſo good. She is troubled with wind, and breaks it freely. She complains of the heat of the draughts

—She

—She is to take the following draught every ſix hours.

Take of ſpring water, an ounce and a half; polychreſt ſalt, twenty grains; white ſugar, a dram and a half.

March 13. She has paſſed a good night; and is better to-day. Her pulſe is calmer. She has had no ſtool. She diſlikes the draughts much.

The draughts with camphire and nitre are to be repeated: and ſhe is to have a bolus of rhubarb and the cordial confection, each fifteen grains, to-night.

March 14. She was reſtleſs, and low, in the night. She had one ſtool before ſhe took the bolus, and three to-day. They were all offenſive, dark, and ſlimy. Her ſpirits are better ſince ſhe had the ſtools. Her ſkin is cool. Her pulſe is very low, and beats ſeventy-ſix ſtrokes in the minute, to-night. Wind ſometimes occaſions gripes; otherwiſe her belly is quite eaſy. She has no complaint in her head, or ears. Her appetite is bad. Her ſtomach is ſour.

MVSEVM BRITANNICVM

She is to take the bolus every ſecond or third night; and two tea ſpoonfuls of the ſimple tincture of the Peruvian bark, in a cup of chamomile tea, twice a day.

By this method ſhe acquired her uſual health: and, in the courſe of recovery, ſhe paſſed ſome large round worms.

CASE VI.

March 12, 1774. Mrs. L. M. aged twenty-ſix years, has been troubled with a cough, and difficulty of breathing, ever ſince Michaelmas; and believed herſelf, within theſe two days, to be twenty weeks gone with child. For the firſt thirteen weeks ſhe had no menſtrual diſcharge: but, during the laſt ſeven, ſhe has had it without interruption, though various as to the quantity. From the time that the flux took place, ſhe has been troubled with pains in her belly, particularly in the right ſide of it, and down the groin, ſwelling of her legs, ſcarcity of urine, heat, thirſt, and a quick pulſe. Medicines relieved her breath much, and almoſt entirely removed the

cough: but the other ſymptoms continued without the leaſt abatement. The night before laſt, ſhe was ſeized with ſickneſs, vomiting, and pains like labour-pains. The pains continued bad, at times, yeſterday: and, laſt night, there were all the appearances of an approaching abortion, which it was judged neceſſary to forward by manual operation; as the flux was violent, notwithſtanding a variety of means had been uſed to check it. The abortion proved to be a falſe conception: and clots of blood, firm like pieces of liver, came away at the ſame time. This falſe conception conſiſted of a placenta, and a prodigious number of hydatids of various ſizes, which amounted in the whole, to more than half an Engliſh gallon; and, at a diſtance, had much the appearance of frogs ſpawn. The largeſt of the hydatids was about the ſize of a grape. The whole were ſo many thin membranous veſicles, diſtended with clear water; and were connected to one another, and to the placenta, by cellular ſubſtance, and blood veſſels. — Laſt night was the beſt ſhe has had for ſome time.

She

She had ſevere bearing down pains in the morning. She, then, got an emollient clyſter, which ſoon came away, and was followed by a very large yellow ſtool: and, much about the ſame time, a large, tough, clot of blood came from the womb; ſince which, her belly has been much eaſier; but is ſtill ſore all over, and eſpecially from below the navel. Her whole belly is alſo ſore to the touch, but quite ſoft. She complains likewiſe of pain acroſs her forehead, ſome difficulty of breathing, heat, and thirſt. Her ſkin is hot. Her pulſe is ſharp, and beats a hundred and thirty ſtrokes in the minute, to-day.--- Gruel, and barley-water, are ordered for all her food. She is to take a fourth part of the following mixture, every ſix hours, beginning immediately.

Take of ſpring water, eight ounces; ſyrup of orange-peel, an ounce; nitre, eighty grains.

This evening, her face is fluſhed, and her breathing continues a little affected. The uterine diſcharge is copious. She

makes

makes water freely. She has had no ſleep. ---The mixture is to be continued.

March 13. She had a chilly fit laſt night; which was ſucceeded by a hot fit, without ſweat. She had ſome refreſhing ſleep in the night. During the exacerbation, the pain acroſs her forehead was worſe; and ſhe was troubled with a throbbing noiſe in her ears. Her ſkin is cool, and palms moiſt, this morning. Her belly is much eaſier: but it is affected by the cough. Her tongue is moiſt, and not white. Her urine continues copious. She has had no ſtool.---She ſlept for an hour to-day. Her belly is tolerably eaſy to-night; except when ſhe coughs. She is ſtill troubled with ſome pain in her head, and noiſe in her ears. Her breathing alſo continues a little affected. Her ſpirits are very low. Her tongue is moiſt. Her ſkin is cool, and rather moiſt. Her pulſe is low, and beats a hundred and twenty ſtrokes in the minute. The uterine diſcharge is pale, and much leſs. The urine is copious, and lets fall a ſediment. She has had no ſtool.---She is

allowed

allowed ſmall broth, by turns with her other food.

The mixture is continued: and ſhe is to take forty grains of the polychreſt ſalt, in a draught, immediately.

March 14. She coughed a great deal, and was very reſtleſs, and very low, in the night. The cough affected both her head, and belly. She has had ſome refreſhing ſhort ſleeps, this morning: but what ſhe had in the night did her more harm than good. Her head and belly are much eaſier. The wind makes much noiſe in her bowels: but ſhe does not paſs any. She had no chilly fit yeſterday, or laſt night. She was not hot in the night. Her pulſe is ſoft, and beats a hundred ſtrokes in the minute.---The bed having ſmelled, laſt night, all the linen about the patient was changed. She has had three, or four, ſmall ſtools, of a very bright yellow colour, and not looſe.

She was chilly, for a little, about an hour after noon; and was afterward hot for four hours, during which time, the pain of her head was very ſevere, but her

her breathing was free. Her cough is much leſs frequent. Her breath continues free. Her ſpirits are much better ſince ſhe was ſhifted. Her belly is not ſo ſore. Her ſkin is cool. She is not thirſty. Her pulſe beats a hundred and ten ſtrokes in the minute to-night. Her urine is pale, and ſoon depoſes a crude grey ſediment.

The ſame method is continued: and the draught, with polychreſt ſalt, is to be repeated immediately.

March 15. She paſſed a reſtleſs night. She was chilly at one in the morning for a quarter of an hour; and afterward hot till ſeven. During the hot fit the pain of her head was bad, the cough frequent, and thirſt intenſe. She never ſweats. Her ſkin is cool this morning. Her belly is quite ſoft, and free from all pain, or ſoreneſs. The uterine diſcharge is without colour. Her pulſe is low, and beats a hundred and ten ſtrokes in the minute. She has had three coſtive very yellow ſtools.---She has been quite cool ſince morning. Her head is pretty eaſy, except when ſhe attempts to raiſe it from

the

the pillow. Her breath is free. Her tongue is moiſt. Her urine, as in the morning, is of a yellowiſh colour, quickly becomes turbid, and, in leſs than half an hour, drops a crude, grey, ſediment. She has had four very ſmall ſtools, partly looſe, and of the uſual colour. Her pulſe is low this evening, and beats a hundred ſtrokes in the minute.

The ſame courſe is continued: and four drops of laudanum are to be given her immediately.

March 16. She became hot, without any perceptible chill, between ſix and ſeven laſt night; and continued ſo, till early in the morning, but never ſweated. Her head, and breathing, were a good deal affected, during the hot fit. She has had very little ſleep, and that not refreſhing. This morning, her head is pretty eaſy, except when ſhe raiſes it from the pillow. The cough is much abated. She is ſtill very low. She has not been thirſty ſince laſt report. Her ſkin is cool. The ſediment of the urine continues to drop ſoon; but is whiter, and rather lighter. — She has been quite cool ſince morning;

morning; but complains of headach as uſual, pain of her back, ſome difficulty of breathing, and aching pains all over her belly. Her cough continues better. Her pulſe is ſharp, and beats a hundred and ten ſtrokes in the minute, to-night. She breaks no wind. She has had no ſtool.

The mixture is continued: and ten grains of rhubarb, with an equal quantity of the cordial confection, are to be given her immediately.

March 17. She began to be hot, laſt night, at nine, without any preceding chill, and continued ſo moſt of the night; during which time her breathing was very ſtrait. She had a ſtool at three in the morning; and, much about the ſame time, a rediſh uterine diſcharge. Theſe evacuations gave immediate relief to her head, back, and belly: which laſt was affected not only with an aching, but a bearing down, pain. The ſtool was large, and of a tolerably good colour, but ſtill coſtive. This morning, ſhe has no pain, either in her back, or belly; and her headach is inconſiderable. Her

ſkin

ſkin is cool. Her pulſe beats ninety-five ſtrokes in the minute. The ſediment of the urine is ſtill whiter. —She has had a good day. Her pulſe beats a hundred ſtrokes in the minute to-night. Her ſpirits are better. The headach is trifling, except when ſhe attempts to riſe from the pillow. The uterine flux is rather more, and of the ſame colour. Her belly is quite eaſy. She has had no ſtool.

The bolus and mixture are continued.

March 18. A bearing down pain, affecting her whole belly, began a little after eight laſt night, and continued ſeveral hours: but the violence of it was taken off, in leſs than two hours, by means of a clyſter of ſalt and water, which brought away two, dark, ſlimy ſtools, and moſtly coſtive. She was rather hot in the night. She ſlept a good deal, and always awaked very low, and faint. She has never been chilly, and has coughed very little, ſince laſt report. She has ſtill ſome head-ach: and her breathing is a little affected this morning. Her belly is quite eaſy. The uterine

rine flux is very little, and colourleſs. She has no thirſt. Her ſkin is cool. Her pulſe is low, ſmall, and beats ninety-five ſtrokes in the minute.

The mixture is omitted. She is to have two tea ſpoonfuls of the ſimple tincture of the Bark, in a cup of chamomile tea, every forenoon and afternoon. And ſhe is to take a ſpoonful of the following mixture, at any time when low.

Take of mint-water, ſeven ounces;
ſyrup of orange-peel, an ounce;
ſalt of hartſhorn, forty grains.

She was ſeized with pain all over her belly ſoon after laſt report; which, after having been violent for ſome time, gradually abated, and was entirely off about three in the afternoon: and her belly has been quite eaſy ever ſince. Her breathing is quite free to-night: but it was much affected during the colick. Her bowels did not rumble during the pain: and ſhe is not much troubled with wind. She broke wind downwards in the day. She has ſtill ſome pain in her forehead. She

has

has ſlept none ſince laſt night. She has no thirſt. She is not ſo low. Her pulſe beats a hundred ſtrokes in the minute. The urine is pale: and the ſediment is leſs in quantity, and grows daily whiter. She ſays, the medicines do her good.—It appears that ſhe has had much unneceſſary cauſe of uneaſineſs theſe two days.

The ſame method is continued. The bolus is to be repeated immediately with four ſpoonfuls of the camphorated mixture, containing only half the quantity of nitre. And the belly is to be embrocated with a ſpoonful of the camphorated oil.

March 19. She had a great deal of refreſhing ſleep laſt night. She has no pain any where, but a little in her forehead. She coughs very little, and breathes freely. Her ſpirits are much better. Her thirſt is gone. Her ſkin is cool. Her pulſe is low, and beats eighty-eight pulſations in the minute to-day. The urine has a light, white, ſediment. She has had no uterine diſcharge ſince yeſterday morning. She has had one very bilious

offenſive ſtool; which is partly coſtive. —She ſays, the oil warmed her bowels, and did her much good.

The tincture and cordial mixture are to be continued as before. The bolus is to be repeated every other night, beginning to-night. Four ſpoonfuls of the camphorated mixture are to be taken thrice every natural day, at ſix in the evening, at midnight, and ſix in the morning.

By this method ſhe ſoon recovered perfect health and ſtrength.

CASE VII.

November 25, 1774. N. O. aged twenty-ſeven years, of a thin habit, and unmarried, was brought to bed of her firſt child on the fifteenth current in the morning. From her delivery, ſhe complained of a pain in the left ſide of her belly within the haunch-bone, which was relieved by breaking wind. She was, in other reſpects, quite well till the ſeventeenth in the night, when ſhe awaked in a ſhivering

a ſhivering fit, which was ſucceeded by great heat: and ſhe has been more or leſs feveriſh ever ſince. She has had two cold fits to-day; the firſt was a ſhivering fit, which began at ten, and continued for an hour; the other was only a chilneſs that laſted a few minutes, about ſeven, this evening. There are aching pains through all her bones during the cold fits, but at no other time. A pain over her eyes has been more or leſs troubleſome ever ſince the beginning of the fever. Her tongue is moiſt, and not white. She is thirſty. She has a little of a cough for theſe four or five days: and her breathing is a little affected. She has been troubled with lowneſs and faintneſs all along; but was never apprehenſive of danger till within theſe three hours, when ſhe had a creeping ſenſation under her breaſts, and felt as though her breath were leaving her. Till to-day, her appetite has been tolerable for ſmall broth, gruel, and the like. She has now no deſire for food: and ſhe was ſick lately after taking ſome broth. Her ſkin is hot; and her breaſts and belly

are particularly ſo. Ever ſince the morning of the day after delivery, her breaſts have been full of milk; and uneaſy, through their diſtention, heat, and weight. Her belly, though naturally ſmall, is large, but ſoft; and free from all uneaſineſs beſide the uncommon heat, the pain having left it about a week ago. The feveriſh exacerbations have always been attended with general ſweats, which only ſerved to increaſe the faintneſs. Her pulſe is ſmall, and beats eighty ſtrokes in the minute. The lochia, after having followed the regular courſe, entirely left her on the nineteenth. She was very coſtive during pregnancy. She had a ſmall very coſtive ſtool on the eighteenth. Since that time ſhe has had two clyſters; each of which brought away a very large, dark, ſlimy ſtool, beſide ſmaller looſe ones. Theſe clyſters were adminiſtered at her own deſire; as ſhe felt, from time to time, a heat and peculiar uneaſineſs in her bowels, which, ſhe ſaid, could only be relieved by ſtools.——Her ſpirits have been much depreſſed for ſeveral months

paſt. She has ſuckled her child, and her breaſts have alſo been drawn occaſionally ever ſince the day of her delivery.

She is to have broth, gruel, and barley-water, by turns, for all her food.

She is to take a powder, conſiſting of ten grains of rhubarb, and as much nutmeg, this evening; and a fourth part of the following mixture every ſix hours, beginning immediately.

Take of ſpring water, eight ounces; white ſugar, half an ounce; nitre, a dram.

November 26. She ſweated, and had ſeveral refreſhing ſleeps, in the night. She has broke a great deal of wind downward. The urine made laſt night was of a pale yellowiſh colour, and very ſoon let fall a whitiſh pink ſediment in large quantity: that made at eight in the morning abounds with the ſame kind of ſediment in ſtill greater quantity. There is a pellicle, or ſcum, on each of the urines: and their bodies reſemble common water

that is rather foul. She is not ſo low. Her ſkin is more temperate. Her pulſe beats eighty ſtrokes in the minute this forenoon.——She was hot in the day, but without any preceding chill. She had ſome refreſhing ſleep, and awaked in a ſweat. Her head is free from pain this evening. Her faintneſs and lowneſs are ſtill leſs. She is not thirſty. Her appetite is better. Her whole body is of a more temperate heat. Her pulſe beats eighty pulſations in the minute. She has had a large, dark, ſlimy, ſtool, lately, from the uſual clyſter of ſalt and water.

The powder and mixture are to be repeated.

November 27. She had her clothes on, and ſat up, and lay, by turns, upon the bed, to-day. She has no thirſt. Her ſkin is of a natural heat. Her pulſe is calm. The urine has a copious, whitiſh pink, ſediment, of very quick ſeparation. The body of the urine is like foul water containing innumerable particles of the ſame colour with the ſediment, which tend to the bottom by gentle agitation.

She has had a ſmall ſtool, without ſlime, and of a pretty good colour, from a clyſter, this evening.

The powder and mixture are omitted. She is to take ten grains of the aloetick pills this night.

November 28. She ſweated a little in the night, but none to-day. Her urine was of a more yellow colour to-day; did not break for two hours; and, at laſt, let fall a white ſediment, and in much leſs quantity. Her thirſt is gone. Her appetite is craving. She had an open, yellow, ſtool, in the morning; and another, this evening, open alſo, but brown.

The two pills are to be repeated to-night.

November 30. She makes no complaint. She ſleeps well; and ſweats only a little when aſleep. The urine is of a natural colour, theſe two days; and does not become turbid for more than four hours. The ſediment is in ſmall quantity, and ſtill whiter: and the body of the urine continues like water muddy with

looſe particles of the ſame colour with the ſediment.

The pills are continued for this night only.

December 3. She was ſeized at eight laſt night with a ſhivering fit, which continued two hours: and ſhe has been hot and thirſty ever ſince. A ſweat only begun within this half hour: and it is mild and general. She complains of pain over her eyebrows, faintneſs, weakneſs, and loſs of appetite, ever ſince the cold fit came on. Her milk continues in plenty. Her pulſe beats a hundred ſtrokes in the minute, to-day, about noon. The urine, that was made juſt after the hot fit began, has a white well digeſted, that is, a ſmooth and compact, ſediment, with a crude, pink, ſurface: the body of this urine has a yellowiſh caſt; and is a little muddy from looſe particles which fall down by agitation. The urine made in the morning is of a tranſparent yellow colour, and has a ſmall, very white, cloud-like ſediment.

The pills are to be repeated.

December

December 4. The ſweat continued, and was profuſe through the night, and went off about nine this morning. She has been of a natural heat ever ſince. Her pulſe is quite calm this afternoon. The urine, made at ten laſt night, is rather high coloured, continues tranſparent, and has a ſmall, white, cloud-like ſediment. That made about eight in the morning has a groſs, copious, pink, ſediment: its body is ſtill yellowiſh; and contains looſe ſubſiding particles. She has had an open ſtool.—She had a tertian ague in the ſpring, five or ſix years ago, which laſted eight weeks. She will aſſign no cauſe for the fever fit.

December 7. At ſix in the morning ſhe awaked in a ſhivering fit, which, after an hour's continuance, was ſucceeded by great heat. She fell aſleep at noon, awaked in a ſweat at one, was quite cool by two o'clock, and has continued ſo ever ſince. She made water twice, and in great quantity, during the paroxyſm: the firſt, made at nine, was very pale; the ſecond was of a yellowiſh caſt. She had a ſtool

on the fifth naturally, and one to-day from a clyſter which was adminiſtered after the ſweat was over. All her ſtools are of a good appearance. The headach which came with the fever continues to-night. She has milk in plenty. Her appetite is good.—It now appears that ſhe met with great uneaſineſs on the fifth current at night; that ſhe has been much employed for theſe two days with her needle; and that ſhe has been indulging a keen appetite to the full, not only with ſuch food as is allowed her, but alſo with toaſted bread ſoaked in melted butter.

December 8. She was of a natural heat, ſweated ſome, and reſted well in the night. Her pulſe to-day at noon is quite calm. Her appetite is keen; and ſhe eats her bread now without butter. Yeſterday's urine ſtill retains its colour and tranſparency without any mark of ſeparation, except a very trifling white cloud-like ſediment. The urines made laſt night and in the morning broke in leſs than half an hour; and, after having let fall a copious high-coloured ſediment,

are both of a muddy yellowish caſt, ſeemingly, from looſe, diffuſed, particles.

The pills are repeated.

December 9. She reſted well; and ſweated a little in the night. Her ſkin is temperate. Her pulſe is calm. Her appetite is keen. She has no thirſt. Her milk is in plenty. She makes but little water at a time. The urine, made at ten laſt night, was of a yellow colour, became turbid in a quarter of an hour, and has, to-day, a copious ſediment, and white, inclining a very little to pink. The urine made at nine in the morning is of a deep yellow, underwent no alteration for three hours, and has now only a very inconſiderable, white, cloud-like ſediment.

December 10. She has had a very good night. She ſweated a little in the morning. Her ſkin is always temperate. Her pulſe is calm this afternoon. Her appetite is keen. She improves in fleſh and ſtrength. The urine made at nine laſt night did not become turbid for an hour; and has, to-day, a copious, whitiſh pink,

pink, ſediment; while the body of it has little or no colour, but from diffuſed particles. The morning's urine is of a pale yellow, ſtill retains both colour and tranſparency, and has a very ſmall, white, cloud-like ſediment. She had a ſtool yeſterday, and another to-day, of the beſt colour yet.—Oatmeal haſty-pudding is added to her diet, as ſhe deſires it.

December 11. She is in good health and ſpirits. The urine is rather paler than natural, does not break for many hours, and at laſt, lets fall a white ſediment. She has had a natural ſtool.

December 14. She is in good health. She continues to ſuckle her child. She has a natural ſtool every day.—She is now allowed a little meat at dinner.

CASE VIII.

March 17, 1775. Mrs. P. Q. aged thirty-ſeven years, and of a ſlender healthy habit, was brought to bed of her firſt child on the twenty-eighth of the laſt month, about noon. The night after

delivery

delivery ſhe was greatly diſtreſſed with grinding, that is, bearing down, pains; but they went off upon the diſcharge of a good deal of clotted blood from the womb. The milk came plentifully into her breaſts on the ſecond current. Every thing went on well till the fourth; when, her huſband having been taken ill, ſhe became very reſtleſs, and unhappy, and was ſeized, on the ſixth, with a cold fit, ſucceeded by pain over her eyebrows, faintneſs, fulneſs and ſoreneſs of her belly, heat, and thirſt: and ſhe has been in a fever ever ſince. In a few days after this fever began ſhe continued for a whole night in a profuſe univerſal ſweat, which increaſed her lowneſs and faintneſs; but did not in the leaſt abate the fever. She has all along been ſubject to cold and hot fits oftener than once in the day: and her ſleeps have been very ſhort, and unrefreſhing.

At preſent, her head is eaſy; but ſhe can get no ſleep, on account of troubleſome dreams. Her face is flushed. Her tongue is moiſt. Her breathing is pretty

free. Her breaſts have never been uneaſy: but, though they have been duly drawn, (for the child will not ſuck them) the milk has been gradually leſſening ever ſince the commencement of the fever. She is low, and faint; but was never apprehenſive of danger till to-day. Her belly is larger than natural, but is ſoft, and free from pain, or ſoreneſs; except what ariſes from gripes, which accompany her ſtools, and are alſo troubleſome at other times. Her ſkin is hot, and rather moiſt. Her palms are very moiſt. Her pulſe is ſharp, and beats a hundred and thirty-five pulſations in the minute. She is very thirſty. She has no appetite: and ſhe lothes broth and gruel, which have been her conſtant food. She is much troubled with wind; and the breaking of wind relieves her gripes. The lochia continued copious for more than eight days notwithſtanding the fever: and there was afterward a ſerous diſcharge till within theſe two days. There is a ſmall return of a reddiſh uterine diſcharge to-day.

to-day. Her urine has been copious, and pale: but, for this day or two, it is ſaid to have been high-coloured, and in ſmall quantity.—She had an uncommon ſhare of health, during pregnancy, from the end of the third month till within eight days of her delivery. During that time, ſhe indulged a large appetite; and even eat meat twice a day. She was at the ſame time very coſtive, having often gone two or three days without a ſtool. For the laſt eight days of geſtation, ſhe was often troubled with what ſhe calls a riſing at her throat, as though her food did not digeſt well; and her belly was rather looſe. She had a ſtool when in labour ſo very offenſive, that the attending ſurgeon could ſcarce bear it. She had no ſtool for ſome days after delivery: but, ever ſince, ſhe has had at the rate of two every other day; and they have always been very dark and offenſive.—She has been taking rhubarb, magneſia, and Rochelle ſalts, from time to time; alſo mixtures with nitre and camphire.—She got ten grains of ipecacuanha to-day, which

which made her vomit once, and bring up ſome phlegm. She has had three ſmall ſtools to-day; one before, and two ſince the vomit, beſide ſeveral fruitleſs motions with gripes.—She has been much expoſed to company, and her room has been kept too warm, during the courſe of this fever.

She is to continue the broth and gruel by turns for all her food.—She is to take a bolus of rhubarb and the cordial confection each ten grains, immediately. She is to take a fourth part of the following mixture with the bolus, and the ſame quantity every ſix hours after.

Take of mint-water, ſeven ounces;
ſyrup of orange-peel, an ounce;
pure nitre, a dram.

March 18. She had ſome ſhort, refreſhing ſleeps in the night; and ſlept ſound from five to ſeven this morning. She had two ſtools, of a very dark bilious colour, with wind and gripes, in the night. She has been often troubled with gripes attended with teneſmus, that is,

fruitleſs

fruitleſs motions to ſtool ſince laſt report. The gripes have always the effect of rendering the belly ſore to the touch for ſome time after. The urine made between two and three in the morning became turbid, and whitiſh, in half an hour; and continues ſo without ſediment. That made at eight in the morning is of a natural colour, and has not yet undergone any change. She has rather more milk. Her pulſe is ſoft, and beats eighty-five ſtrokes in the minute, this forenoon. The uterine diſcharge is gone.—She was cold, eſpecially over her arms, for a few minutes, about two o'clock; and has been hot ever ſince. She ſlept ſound about an hour and a half in the afternoon. She now complains only of heat, thirſt, and ſoreneſs of her belly, eſpecially, upon changing her poſture. Her ſpirits have been good all day, and continue ſo. Her countenance is flushed. Her tongue is rough. Her ſkin is hot. Her pulſe is ſmall, and beats a hundred and fifteen pulſations in the minute, to-night. The morning urines continue the

ſame. The urine made at two in the afternoon is tranſparent, and rather high coloured, with a very trifling cloud-like ſediment. The urine made about an hour ago became turbid in a few minutes, and now depoſes a ſediment. She has had two more very dark ſtools with wind and gripes. Her belly is leſs.

The bolus is to be repeated: and ſhe is to take a fourth part of the following mixture every ſix hours, beginning immediately.

Take of ſpring water, nine ounces;
ſyrup of orange-peel, one ounce;
pure nitre, a dram.

March 19. She was low, reſtleſs, very hot, and thirſty, from eleven to two in the morning. She fell aſleep at ſix, ſlept ſound for an hour and a half, and awaked in a profuſe general ſweat. Her face is fluſhed this forenoon. Her tongue is rough, and whitiſh. She is neither low, nor faint. Her ſkin is moiſt, and more temperate. Her pulſe is low, and beats eighty-

eighty-five ſtrokes in the minute. She has little thirſt; and ſtill no appetite. The urine made early yeſterday in the afternoon is turbid without ſediment. That made in the evening is of an orange colour, and has a light pink ſediment with diffuſed particles of the ſame colour. The urine made at five this morning depoſes the ſame kind of ſediment. She has had two ſtools, very looſe, and of a better colour. She was griped in the night, not only with her ſtools, but at other times. She continues to paſs a great deal of wind, and with relief.—She has never been chill to-day; and has ſweated a good deal. She has had ſeveral ſhort but ſound ſleeps. She has had a ſmall looſe griping ſtool, with a good deal of wind. —Her ſkin is moiſt and of a moderate warmth to-night. Her pulſe is rather ſharp, and beats ninety ſtrokes in the minute. Her tongue is ſofter and not ſo white. Her thirſt is gone. Her ſpirits are good. Her appetite begins to return. —The urine made in the morning is of an orange or bilious colour, and has a

ſmooth whitiſh or pearl-coloured ſediment, with a groſs pink ſurface. That made early in the afternoon became turbid in little more than half an hour, and exhibits now the ſame appearances as the preceding. Both urines abound with diffuſed pink-coloured particles. The urine made an hour ago is of a light bilious colour, and tranſparent, but begins to break.

The ſame method is continued.

March 20. She ſlept ſound moſt of the night, and once for two hours together. She had two ſmall liquid ſtools, of ſull a better colour, with gripes and wind. —Her ſkin is moiſt, and of nearly the natural heat this forenoon. Her pulſe is ſmall and beats eighty ſtrokes in the minute. Her tongue is moiſt. Her ſpirits are good. The urine made yeſterday in the evening retains ſome of its colour, and has the ſmooth ſediment, whiter and in larger quantity, with the uſual ſurface. The urines made at eleven laſt night and two in the morning are of a light bilious tranſparent colour, and ſeem as though they would break.—She had a good deal

of

of refreſhing ſleep in the day; and ſhe ſweated when aſleep. She was of a temperate heat all day. Her tongue is moiſt and ſmooth to-night. Her ſkin is temperate. She has had no coldneſs for two days. Her pulſe is ſmall, and beats ninety ſtrokes in the minute. Her ſpirits are good. The ſoreneſs of her belly is gone. She has had two windy griping looſe ſtools, and darker than thoſe in the morning. The laſt ſtool was rather large, and relieved her much by ſeeming to empty her bowels.—Laſt night's urine, mentioned in the morning as tranſparent, ſtill retains ſome of its colour, and contains the uſual ſediment. That made early in the morning has not yet undergone any change. The urine made at eleven in the forenoon is paler than uſual, and tranſparent with a very ſlight cloud at bottom. That made at two in the afternoon became turbid in an hour and a half; and has ſince depoſed the uſual ſediment. Theſe ſediments are ſtill more of a pearly than ſnowy whiteneſs.

The ſame courſe is continued.

March 21. She had a good night. She was ſometimes griped in the night, and was relieved as uſual by the breaking of wind. She had one looſe dark ſtool with gripes and a good deal of wind.—Her ſpirits are good this forenoon. Her pulſe is ſmall, and beats eighty ſtrokes in the minute. She ſtill ſweats in her ſleep. Her urine is copious. That made in the night and early in the morning is pale and tranſparent. That made about half an hour ago is of a bilious colour, and muddy.—She has paſſed a good day. She makes no complaint to-night. Her pulſe is ſmall and beats eighty ſtrokes in the minute. She has had another ſtool, dark, bilious, and very ſlimy. The morning's bilious urine is ſtill tranſparent with a ſmall ſediment. The urine made through the day is of a ſtraw colour without contents.

The ſame method is continued.

March 22. She paſſed a quiet night, but did not ſleep ſo much as uſual. She had two very ſlimy ſtools of the uſual colour; and voided a great deal of wind with

 them.

them. She was much troubled with gripes for a conſiderable time before the ſtools.—Her ſkin continues temperate, and her ſpirits good. Her pulſe is ſmall, and beats eighty ſtrokes in the minute this forenoon. Her urine is more copious, and is of a pale ſtraw colour without any marks of ſeparation.—She paſſed a good day, and ſlept ſome. She ſat up for an hour this evening. Her pulſe is ſmall and beats ſeventy-two ſtrokes in the minute. Her urine is pale and tranſparent, with little or no ſediment. She has had another dark griping fetid ſtool, conſiſting almoſt entirely of very ropy ſlime.

The ſame method is continued: and two grains of ſocotorine aloes are to be added to the bolus.

March 23. She paſſed the beſt night that ſhe has yet had. She had one ſtool of a natural colour.—Her pulſe beats ſeventy-ſix ſtrokes in the minute this morning. Her urine is of a pale ſtraw colour without ſeparation.—She had a very good day, and lay upon the bed in her clothes; and ſat up ſometimes, but very little at a

time. She ſweats very little now in her ſleep. The gripes are inconſiderable. She has had another ſtool, ſlimy and of not ſo good a colour. The urine is tranſparent and pale. The pulſe is natural.—She eat a bit of mutton at dinner to-day for the firſt time; and it has agreed very well with her.

The bolus and mixture are omitted.—She is to take two of the following aloetick pills every night, beginning to-night.

Take of ſcoterine aloes, and hard ſoap, each a dram and a half. Beat them well together, adding a little honey if neceſſary; and divide the maſs into forty equal pills.

March 24. She has no complaint. The urine is almoſt colourleſs. She has had two ſtools of a natural appearance.

CHAP.

CHAP. VI.

Of the WEED, *the* MILK FEVER, *and the* MILIARY FEVER.

THE patients, mentioned in the preceding chapter, are now alive and well; except G. H. who died of a conſumption in ſix or eight months after her delivery. All theſe caſes, and indeed all that I have ever ſeen, moſt clearly demonſtrate the ſolidity of the doctrine which I have advanced concerning the nature, the ſeat, and the cure, of the puerperal remittent fever. The two paroxyſms at the cloſe of the ſeventh caſe are ſo many examples of what the Scots call a Weed; a diſeaſe which, by itſelf, I have not before met with in England.

It is worth while to obſerve, that the Weed did not take place till ſuch time as the inteſtinal canal was thoroughly cleanſed. Hence it is more than probable that the ſhape of puerperal fevers is chiefly determined by the ſtate of the firſt paſſages. If the ſtomach and guts be loaded

with accumulated filth, the fever will be remittent. According to the nature of that accumulation, and of the air in which the patient breathes, ſymptoms will vary; while, in every caſe, the fever remains eſſentially the ſame. On the other hand, if the air be pure, and the ſtomach and guts tolerably clean, the fever will end in one ſmart paroxyſm uſually called a Weed. The methods of prevention and cure recommended for the puerperal remittent fever, extend alſo to this puerperal ephemera or weed.

Having explained the nature and cure of the ephemeral and remittent fevers, I am naturally led to make a few remarks on ſome other febrile diſorders incident to childbed,

The milk fever is a very common diſtemper. I have already touched upon it in the method of cure, as being a variety of the remittent fever. If, immediately after delivery, the milk flow into the breaſts faſter than it is drawn off, they become hot, diſtended, heavy, hard, painful, and at laſt inflamed. If this diſ-

order occurs in a habit otherwiſe ſound, it will continue merely topical: but the patient will, on its account, be more liable to fever from accidental cauſes. And this fever, when it happens, will prove either ephemeral or remittent according to circumſtances. It is proper alſo to remark, that either of theſe fevers will be an exciting cauſe of this diſorder when there is a prediſpoſition in the breaſts.

From what hath been ſaid it follows, that the affection of the breaſts and the fever are diſtinct diſeaſes; and that the latter ought, perhaps, in every inſtance of their combination, to be conſidered as the principal diſorder. This is further confirmed by practice: for though it be certainly neceſſary to keep the milk within bounds by ſuction or drawing, and alſo to uſe other external means, yet no methods of prevention or cure will ſucceed, that are not chiefly intended for the fever.

When the puerperal remittent fever is attended with a certain cutaneous eruption, it conſtitutes what is called the Miliary

liary Fever. These two fevers are therefore essentially the same: and as a convincing proof of this, I know from experience that they equally yield to the general method of cure described in the third chapter.

Finally, what hath been observed of the miliary and milk fevers, holds true of all fevers to which women in childbed are liable; they are only varieties of the ephemeral or remittent fever, but particularly of the latter. This was even the case with the inflammation of the womb referred to in the third chapter: for after all symptoms of inflammation had ceased, the fever notwithstanding continued till the first passages were properly cleansed.

FINIS.

ERRATA.

P. 1. l. 12, 13. *for* when expoſed to febrile cauſes, *read* under certain circumſtances,
P. 5. l. 15. *for* offenſive *read* offenſive
P. 12. l. 23. *for* fluid *read* fluid
P. 13. l. 16. *for* theſe *read* as
P. 20. l. 12. *for* we are *read* they be
P. 20. l. 17. *for* practice *read* practiſe
P. 22. l. 12. *After* patient, *add* and exigence of the caſe,
P. 51. l. 11. *for* loathes *read* loaths
P. 85. l. 27. *for* draughts *read* draughts.